

Hafa Adai!

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OPINION METER

This week's poll:

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Continued 16-hour work
hour cuts or retrenchment
of 'non-essential'
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Fifty years after the pill, another
birth control revolution may be on
the horizon.

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New Eruption

Indonesia's deadly volcano un-
leashes another powerful eruption.

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Dead at 84

Pontiac, whose muscle cars drag-
raced down boulevards, went out
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All set for today's election

» Election Commission to manually count ballots

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

RELATED NEWS

DPS to deploy enough number
of cops for election. **PAGE 3**

The Commonwealth Election Commission is all set for today's congressional election, with 16,576 registered voters eligible to cast their ballots on Saipan, Tinian, Rota, and the Northern Islands.

Election Commission executive director Robert A. Guerrero and board chair Frances Sablan said yesterday that all

ballots—including regular, absentee, and early votes—will be processed and
See ALL SET on Page 4

Voters express high hopes as they head to the polls today

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Jose A. Joseph, a retired government employee, said his single vote will make a difference and so will the vote of others, as he urged fellow registered voters to make their voices heard today for the second election of the CNMI's

nonvoting delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives.

Just like Joseph, many other voters have high hopes for the CNMI's representation in the U.S. Congress.

"I hope that people will vote for someone they think will make a difference in the lives of people in the

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EDUCATION MONTH

Board of Education chair Lucia Blanco-Maratita joins other educators, students and parents for a group photo right after the reading of a proclamation declaring Nov. 24 Education Day and November 2010 Education Month, in the governor's conference room on Capital Hill yesterday morning. It was the first time that neither the governor nor the lieutenant governor was present for a proclamation signing because Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos was not feeling well, while Gov. Benigno R. Fitial was in a meeting with a local investor.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Medicaid Office loses 2 AC units to burglar

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Two air-conditioning units at the Medicaid Office on Capital Hill were stolen last week, causing discomfort among its staff and customers for a few days.

Medicaid Office administrator Helen C. Sablan told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that stolen were a Carrier and Gree air-conditioning units worth a total of \$1,300.

Because it was so hot in their office, Sablan said they de-

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BAD ECONOMY OR NOT

Residents honor deceased loved ones

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

While the cost of wreaths and other flower arrangements, candles and paints have gone up, residents still found ways to adorn their deceased loved ones' graves with flowers, repaint them, and turn them into a home away from home—at least for All

See RESIDENTS on Page 4

A man sits beside his relatives' graves at the Chalan Kanoa cemetery yesterday afternoon.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



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Local

Suspected 'ice' supplier on Tinian falls

Lawmen arrested on Saturday on Tinian a suspected supplier of methamphetamine or "ice" on the island.

Fu Zhu Lin, 38, a male Chinese national also known as Noni, was arrested for possession of a controlled substance and trafficking of a controlled substance.

At yesterday's Gerstein hearing, Superior Court associate judge Kenneth L. Govendo imposed a \$30,000 cash bail for Lin's temporary liberty. Govendo found probable cause to continue Lin's detention.

Preliminary hearing is on Nov. 8 at 9am.

A Gerstein hearing is done when the arrest of a defendant is done without an arrest warrant. In this proceeding, the judge will determine if there is probable cause to continue detaining the suspect.

Assistant public defender Douglas Hartig was appointed counsel for Lin.

Assistant attorney general Benjamin Petersburg called to the witness stand Detective Sean White, who testified how they

bought "ice" from the suspect.

Police spokesman Sgt. Thomas A. Blas Jr. said yesterday that members of the CNMI Drug Enforcement Task Force and other members of the DPS Criminal Investigation Bureau conducted a buy-bust operation against Lin in San Jose, Tinian, on Friday.

Blas said investigations revealed that Lin was distributing "ice" out of the Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino.

During the operation, the officers bought about \$200 worth

of "ice" from Lin.

Blas said that Lin was arrested on Saturday at 3:30pm, at the Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino where he works.

Senate shifting to tax rules' enforcement

The Senate's newly formed Tax Policy and Enforcement Review Committee held a public hearing Thursday last week on the enforcement of laws and rules on business license fees and taxes.

Senate Vice President Jude Hofschneider, task force chair, said the public hearing gave the Senate more information about enforcement problems such as lack of enforcement officers at Finance and Commerce. Senators took turns asking questions of then Finance Secretary Bob Schrack and other Finance and Commerce division directors.

Hofschneider said the Senate is shifting its focus from proposing to increases taxes and fees to ensuring tax enforcement laws and rules are implemented to generate needed revenues for the government especially in these tough economic times.

Other senators present at the hearing were Senate President Paul Manglona (R-Rota), Senate floor leader Pete P. Reyes (R-Saipan), Sen. Frank Cruz (R-Tinian), and Sen. Jovita Taimanao (Ind-Rota). *(Haidee V. Eugenio)*

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A weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority
Tourism is everybody's business.

Rota Blue Triathlon

Nov. 13, 2010



The 17th Annual Rota Blue Triathlon takes off bright and early next Saturday (Nov. 13) on the Friendly Island of Rota, with over 100 international athletes anticipated for the event.

This Marianas Visitors Authority signature event is staged each year in partnership with Kiyokazu Fitness Club of Japan, Rota Mayor's Office, and the community of Rota.

The island of Rota, southernmost of the Northern Mariana Islands, offers an oasis of pristine beauty and island hospitality. Awaiting the eager triathlete are turquoise-green waters and quiet roadways revealing picturesque coastlines, quaint villages and lush, green jungles.

The annual triathlon will feature two courses highlighting Rota natural beauty. The A-type Solo Triathlon will include a 1.5-km swim, 40-km biking course and a 10-km run. The B-type Solo Triathlon will include a 2-km swim, followed by a 90-km rigorous biking course and a 21-km run. There will also be an A-type Team Triathlon. The A-type triathlons have no time limit, while the B-type has an 8 hour time limit.



Registration is now being accepted by the MVA. Final registration may also be made in Rota on Nov. 12. Registration fees are as follows: A-type Solo Triathlon for all 3 events is \$80, B-type Solo Triathlon for all 3 events is \$100, and A-type Team Triathlon is \$70/person for two or three persons.

For an application or more information about the Rota Blue Triathlon, contact Frank Tudela of the MVA at 1.670.664.3200/01 or ftudela@mymarianas.com, or Sandra Atalig of the MVA Rota Office at 1.670.532.0327 or satalig@mymarianas.com.



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Alleged rape victim breaks down in tears during testimony

A woman broke down in tears in the Superior Court yesterday, saying she could not testify in the jury trial of her former common-law husband who allegedly raped her. After a few minutes, however, she continued with her testimony.

"I don't think I can do this!" said the alleged victim, who was the first witness called by the prosecution in the trial of Paul H. Taitano.

Associate Judge Perry B. Inos immediately asked the court staff to give the alleged victim a glass of water.

Inos then excused the seven jurors that include former lieutenant governor Jesus Sablan.

Inos reminded the alleged victim that she was summoned to testify and that she should answer questions during examinations.

"Is there a medical reason why you should not continue with your testimony?" the judge asked.

When the witness insisted she could not testify, Inos summoned assistant attorneys general Eli Golob and Brian Gallagher and defense lawyer Stephen Nutting to a chamber meeting.

Blumel Ada of the Victim/Witness Unit of the Office of the Attorney General then comforted the alleged victim.

After a few minutes, the alleged victim agreed to continue with her testimony.

Inos ordered a recess at 3:30pm and continued the trial for tomorrow, Wednesday, at 8:30am.

Judge Naraja orders medical exam on cop in 'ice' charges

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Robert C. Naraja yesterday ordered the continued detention of police officer Florencio Q. Richards, who was indicted for allegedly selling illegal drugs.

Naraja imposed no bail at this time on the 32-year-old Richards.

The judge, however, directed him to undergo a medical examination to determine his possible addiction to narcotics.

Naraja remanded Richards to the custody of the U.S. Marshal Service.

Michael Evangelista appeared as court-appointed counsel for Richards. Assistant U.S. Attorney James Benedetto is prosecuting the case.

Joseph James Norita Camacho, counsel for Richards in his pending "ice" charges in the Superior Court, earlier told *Saipan Tribune* that his client resigned from the Department of Public Safety after his arrest.

According to the indictment, sometime in July 2010 to July 15, 2010, Richards and others conspired to distribute "ice" in exchange for money and other things of value. (Ferdie de la Torre)

The OAG charged Taitano with sexual assault in the first degree (rape) and burglary.

Taitano allegedly broke into the alleged victim's house and raped her on May 26, 2010.

Police said while the victim was sleeping with her minor son in the children's bedroom, Taitano broke into the room

through the balcony at 3:30am and raped her.

Nutting said it was consensual sex and that, in fact, the alleged victim invited Taitano to come to her house that night.

Nutting said the alleged victim had consumed eight cans of beer and three bottles of wine that night. (Ferdie de la Torre)

DPS to deploy sufficient number of policemen for today's election

The Department of Public Safety will be deploying sufficient police officers to maintain peace and order during today's congressional election in the CNMI.

Police spokesman Sgt. Thomas A. Blas Jr. told *Saipan Tribune* that there will be enough number of officers and that Police Capt. Lawrence Camacho has been designated the overall commander.

Blas said that, as in previous elections, the main role of the

police is to provide security at polling places. He said officers will be posted at polling stations to maintain peace and order.

Blas said officers will also coordinate with poll workers in escorting the ballot boxes from polling precincts to the Susupe Multi-Purpose Center where the tabulation and counting of votes will be held.

The DPS spokesman advised voters, candidates and their supporters to follow all election rules. (Ferdie de la Torre)

Igisomar to be named Commerce chief

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial said he will appoint Sixto Igisomar to be the next Commerce secretary, a position he is now holding in an acting capacity.

The governor assigned Igisomar, the deputy secretary of Commerce, to head the department on a temporary basis when Michael J. Ada stepped down as Commerce secretary.

"I will appoint Sixto to be the Commerce secretary," Fitial told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview on Sunday.

Once formally nominated by the governor, Igisomar will need to undergo Senate confirmation. Igisomar is also the chairman of the Retirement Fund board of

trustees.

The governor also said he is still looking for a replacement for former Finance secretary Robert Schrack, who retired Sunday after 16 years with the department.

Fitial belied reports that former Commonwealth Utilities Corp. executive director Tony Muña may be the next Finance secretary.

The governor said he is looking for a certified public accountant.

"I don't have anybody yet but I'm looking for a Filipino/Filipina U.S. citizen [who is a CPA]...I'm just saying that because I want to see if there are qualified candidates out there from the Filipino-U.S. community," he said.

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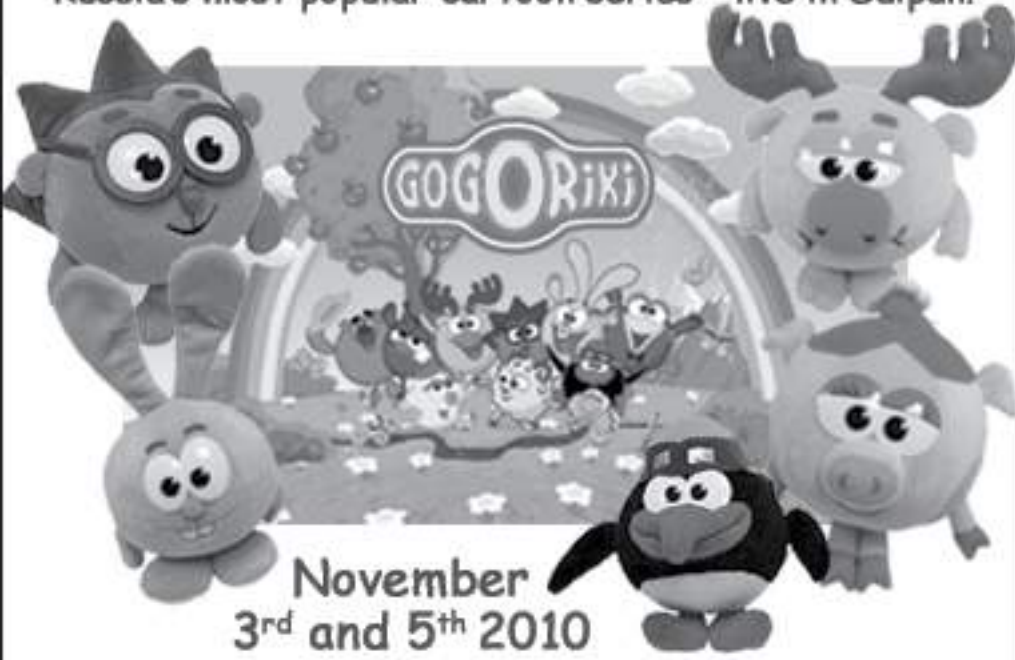
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Rota: 6:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. - Téteto Beach

Fitial to ask Tony Babauta for more federal funding

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial said he will be asking U.S. Interior Assistant Secretary for Insular Areas Tony Babauta next week for more federal funding given the CNMI's current financial conditions, but the governor said he need not discuss with Babauta the Interior report recommending improved immigration status to long-term foreign workers in the Commonwealth.

Fitial said he is set to meet with Babauta on Nov. 8, or a day prior to hosting a forum on economic and labor development.

The Nov. 9 forum discusses a technical assistance program sanctioned by the Consolidated Natural Resources Act, the law that placed CNMI immigration under federal control.

"I think we already have a set schedule and we decided to meet, just the two of

us before the 9th. He's getting in on the 8th. I will be meeting him on the 8th, only the two of us... Definitely we're going to talk about more financial assistance for the Commonwealth," Fitial told Saipan Tribune in an interview.

The U.S. Department of the Interior or the Office of Insular Affairs has been funneling millions of dollars in federal assistance to the CNMI.

This will be Babauta's first visit since April when he presented a copy of the Interior report to the U.S. Congress recommending federal immigration status to foreign workers who have been in the CNMI for at least five years. The Fitial administration is strongly opposed to the Interior report and recommendation, saying Interior did not properly consult with the CNMI government on the report.

But Fitial said his meeting with Babauta will focus on the CNMI's request for more financial assistance

from OIA.

"We know that our revenues have been consistently declining so I would like to ask him if he could help in any way to augment, supplement, complement whatever we have in terms of resources," he said.

Fitial said he wouldn't call it a request for bailout, but more of an economic stimulus request.

"It would be like a stimulus, revitalization... It's more of a technical assistance grant," he said.

The amount requested, he said, would depend on how much OIA can give.

Meanwhile, the OIA forum will be held on Nov. 9 at the Fiesta Resort & Spa on Saipan from 8am to 4 pm.

The federalization law or the CNRA authorizes Interior, in consultation with the CNMI government, the departments of Commerce and Labor, and members of the private sector, to estab-

lish a technical assistance program to promote the growth and diversification of the CNMI economy, the hiring of

Community advocate, alien workers team up for cleanup

For the last seven years Max Aguon has been doing his share of community service, cleaning the beach area from Sugar Dock to the back of the Aquarius Beach Tower. He's been doing this cleanup voluntarily on his own time. He uses his own money for cost of needed supplies and gas for transporting trash in his pickup truck.

A group of Filipino guest workers noticed his effort and have pledged to support him. The group has been thinking of a meaningful way of giving back to the community that has welcomed their presence here for many years now.

In preparation for the upcoming Thanksgiving Day this Saturday, Nov. 6, Aguon will be joined by some Filipino

U.S.-eligible workers, and the recruiting and training for jobs in the main industries.

guest workers in the cleanup of the beach area from Sugar Dock to the back of Aquarius Beach Tower. The next cleanup activity will be on Nov. 20. All interested individuals are welcome to join this cleanup drive, which will start at 7am.

"Like Max, each of us should realize that we need to take care of the beaches and preserve the beauty and cleanliness of the islands for the benefit of the present and future generations. In this hard economic time, through simple efforts such as this, all of us can help promote tourism. Tourists should enjoy the clean atmosphere on land and in the waters of our islands so that they would come back and invite others to come too," said the group. (PR)

RESIDENTS

From Page 1

Saints Day yesterday.

Vince Limes, 28, said there used to be 15 to 18 wreaths placed on their relatives' graves, but because of the financial difficulties, they had to settle with fewer and smaller wreaths.

"But candles are always more important so regardless of price, we had to have candles," Limes told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview at the Chalan Kanoa cemetery yesterday afternoon.

Limes, a Chalan Laulau resident, said one of the plastic wreaths, for example, cost \$150 but because his family is a regular customer, they got a 15-percent discount. He said they used to pay less for the same wreath size.

"We know times are tough but we need to come here every year for our loved ones who already died," he added.

Limes was among the hundreds or even thousands of residents who visited yesterday the biggest cemetery in

the CNMI, a predominantly Catholic society. Just like many others, Limes started cleaning up the graveyards two weeks prior to All Saints Day.

Piding Sablan, Aqua Resort Club director for sales-local and corporate, said they used to allot \$500 for the flowers, the repainting and cleanup, as well as donations to the Mass, but because prices have gone up, they had to increase their budget to \$700.

One big flower arrangement on her parents' tombs, for example, cost \$300, which used to sell for a lower price.

"The red flowers are for my mom, and the yellow flowers are for my dad," she said.

But just like other families, Sablan said All Saints Day happens only once a year so families have ample time to set aside money for the flowers and candles on a monthly basis.

Rep. Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan), who was also at the Chalan Kanoa cemetery, said he has some 30 loved ones buried at the cemetery, many of them perished during the war and whose remains were trans-

ferred from the former Garapan cemetery to the Chalan Kanoa cemetery.

He said it is part of local culture and tradition to always visit deceased loved ones on All Saints Day.

Cabrera said while prices of goods have gone up, preparing for All Saints Day could start way ahead of Nov. 1.

"Preparation is always the key," he said.

A.J. Rogolifoi, a Chalan Kanoa resident, was re-lettering the inscriptions on his relatives' gravestone, as part of his annual pilgrimage to the gravesite. He was with six other family members and relatives; the youngest one was a 3-year-old.

He said a plastic wreath that they used to buy for \$26 or \$27 went up to \$30, but he said this did not dampen their resolve to adorn their deceased loved ones' tombs.

Tony Rogolifoi, 19, said they always visit their relatives' tombs every year because "it has been our tradition."

People were still flocking to the Chalan Kanoa cemetery shortly before 4pm when a Catholic Mass was about to start.

conduct the election. These are the individuals submitted by each candidate's camp, plus six Election Commission employees.

Despite the frenzied preparations, both Guerrero and Sablan expect a "smooth election" today, with perhaps minor challenges as a result of the early voting provision of the new election law.

The following are the polling sites that will open today at 7am:

- Precinct 1A (San Antonio) Hopwood football field entrance
- Precinct 1B (San Vicente/Dandan) Dandan Elementary School
- Precinct 1C (Koblerville) Koblerville Youth Center
- Precinct 2 (Chalan Kanoa/Susupe) Joeten Kiyu Public Library
- Precinct 3A (Oleai/Chalan Laulau) Gilbert Ada Gym
- Precinct 3B (Garapan) Garapan Elementary School cafeteria
- Precinct 4A (Tanapag) Tanapag Elementary School Cafeteria
- Precinct 4B (San Roque) Gregorio T. Camacho School Elementary
- Precinct 4C (Capital Hill) Northern Islands
- Precinct 5 (Kagman) Kagman Community Center
- Precinct 6 (Tinian) Tinian Elementary cafeteria
- Precinct 7 (Rota) NMC Campus-Rota

ALL SET

From Page 1

counted manually as soon as polling places close at 7pm tonight.

About \$70,000 has been appropriated for the entire election. The commission disclosed that manual counting will save it about \$6,000.

Four candidates are running for the non-voting congressional seat in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Despite the limited budget, Guerrero and Sablan assured the public of the integrity of this year's election and vowed transparency throughout the poll process—from the pickup of the absentee ballots from the post office, to collecting the early votes from the Department of Corrections and the processing and tabulation of all the ballots at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

Sablan said eight commissioners will process and count the ballots in the presence of at least two representatives of each candidate and the media. The Office of Public Auditor will also be present.

Last Sunday, the commission sent a poll worker and representatives of the Department of Public Safety and OPA to the Northern Islands to administer the election. Instead of chartering a plane, the poll workers traveled by boat to cut costs.

'18K ballots printed; absentee voters totaled 1,035'

According to Guerrero, the commission printed about 18,000 ballots for this year's elections. These include the over 1,000 early votes during the 10-day emergency voting period that started on Oct. 22.

There are a total of 16,576 registered voters in the Commonwealth as of Oct. 29, according to the commission's website. These include 1,035 absentee voters as of Oct. 30.

Saipan has a total of 13,502 registered voters; Tinian has 1,453; and Rota has 1,621.

According to Guerrero, there are about 150 poll workers who will help

MEDICAID

From Page 1

cided to use their own money to buy new air-conditioning units on Friday to replace the stolen ones.

Sablan said she received a call from the Commonwealth Health Center's operator on Tuesday at 6:30pm that the alarm system had activated.

At the time, Sablan said she was walking along the Beach Road pathway so she had to head back to the car and proceed home to get the keys for the office.

"We didn't call the police because they're going to charge us. So I checked it with my son," she said.

Sablan said the alarm would sometimes activate due to the presence of geckos in the building.

When the two passed by the office,

they saw no signs of burglary. Her son, however, noticed that the air-conditioning units in her office and in the receiving room for customers were missing.

Sablan said the burglary probably happened between 6pm to 6:30pm as she received the call at 6:30pm and the office was closed at 4:30pm that day.

"Whoever is trying to sell air-conditioners, they should report it to the police. It's only the condenser and compressor. It's not complete. They should be aware that it might be a stolen item," she said.

Sablan said they decided to install the two new air-conditioners in front where there are lights to prevent another burglary.

"It's the second time we got hit," she said.

A couple of years ago, the Medicaid Office was also burglarized and an air-conditioner was also stolen.

VOTERS

From Page 1

CNMI," he said in an interview at the Chalan Kanoa cemetery, adding that he has already made up his mind whom to vote for.

Another voter, a 51-year-old woman living in Chalan Kanoa 3, made a promise to one of the candidates that she will vote for him, even though she thinks another candidate is the best for the job.

"I promised to vote for that candidate but it's actually my desire to voter for another candidate. I know it's not right to vote for someone you don't really think is right for the job, but I also want to keep my promise," said the woman, who asked for anonymity, fearing reprisal from the candidate she will vote for in today's delegate election.

The voter, however, said she hopes that the candidate she really wants would win the election. She said she will vote right after attending a Mass.

"I hope all the people out there would vote for the right person," she added.

Arnold Mendiola, 52, also a resident of Chalan Kanoa, said he was among the over 1,300 early voters, and he hopes his candidate will win. Early voting began on Oct. 22.

He said he voted on Sunday as he won't be able to cast his vote today, because he needs to take care of his sick mother.

"Voting matters. Every vote counts, absolutely. We need money for education and I think I voted for the right one. I voted for Kilili. Please put that in the newspaper. If they get mad at me, then so be it," said Mendiola, a Public

School System employee.

Fr. Ryan Jimenez, the chancellor of the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa, called on community voters to "vote according to their conscience, and not out of fear."

"I hope that voters will be objective enough. There are lots at stake," the Catholic priest said.

Thelma Inos of the Division of Energy called on her fellow registered voters to "exercise their right."

"Every vote matters. Especially with four candidates for delegate, it's going to be tough," she said.

Anthony Mendiola, 22, said he is "disappointed" that he wasn't able to register to vote.

"When I got here, the registration period was already over. I stay in Guam," he said.

Registered voters in the CNMI total 16,574, including 998 absentee voters.

In related news, the 16-member Saipan City Taxi Association will provide free taxi ride to voters to get to and from the polling places today, from 7am to 7pm.

Rabby Syed, president of the taxi group, said they are designating two taxicabs for this community service. He encouraged people to call him at 888-4025 to avail of the free rides. Syed said the taxi association is not endorsing any candidate.

Voters have four candidates to choose from as delegate to Congress: former lieutenant governor Jesse Borja of the Democratic Party, former House floor leader Joseph N. Camacho of the Covenant Party, incumbent Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan, an independent, and former governor Juan N. Babauta.

The polling places open at 7am and close at 7pm today.

Fund: Bill will have detrimental effect on pension program

CHC volunteer group hails pioneers



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Rita Villagomez-Tenorio and Amparo Deleon Guerrero-Tenorio are considered the pillars of the Commonwealth Health Center's Volunteers Association.

The Commonwealth Health Center Volunteers Association honored and recognized two of its pioneer members for their many years of valuable contributions to the organization.

Rita Villagomez-Tenorio and Amparo Deleon Guerrero-Tenorio are considered pillars of the association. Both were key to the group's success since its inception in 1986.

As a non-profit association, Commonwealth Health Center Volunteers Association has been dependent on the generosity of the community. According to its members, this is hard to accomplish without the dedication and unselfish efforts of Rita and Amparo in convincing the many donors to assist the organization in its fundraising activities.

"Rita and Amparo are very visible to the staff and management of CHC in working hand in hand to meet the departments' and wards' daily functions. This is not limited to assisting CHC in obtaining the needed equipment, supplies and other necessities as required that are difficult to obtain on a normal situation," members told *Saipan Tribune*.

The association operates and manages the CHC Gift Shop for its operational funds.

In celebrating its 24th year, the organization takes pride in honoring the two for their commitment and sacrifice.

The Commonwealth Health Center Volunteer Association is celebrating its 24th Anniversary and has raised more than \$2 million in donations for the hospital to date. (Moneth G. Deposa)

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

The NMI Retirement Fund strongly opposes a bill that seeks to generate more revenue via tax increases and early retirements, saying it will be detrimental to the already unfunded retirement program of the Commonwealth.

Fund administrator Richard Villagomez said House Bill 17-40, now pending at the Legislature, contains provisions that would further debilitate the pension program.

Section 15 of the bill recommends that only 60 percent of government collections from criminal and civil fines and all revenues collected by CNMI courts shall be deposited and

credited to the judicial building fund, thus diverting 40 percent of the collections necessary to satisfy the judicial building loan payments to the Fund.

The Fund financed the construction of the Judiciary building and the loan balance is currently about \$6.1 million. The Judiciary makes a monthly payment of \$118,245 to the Fund. Due to the worsening economic situation and low collections, the Judiciary is now struggling to make its monthly payments.

According to Villagomez, the bill does not make clear the intended use of the 40 percent of the collections that are diverted from the judicial building fund. This reduction, he said, brings into question the likelihood of the loan be-

ing paid and kept current. He asked the Legislature to delete the section in its entirety.

Villagomez said the Fund also opposes the proposal to provide \$2 million to the Commonwealth Government Employee Credit Union to provide low interest loans for employees wishing to retire with less than the required years of service with full benefits.

"While the Fund does not see significant issues with allowing people to borrow for this reason as some have already retired under existing provisions by borrowing from private banks, the Fund must strongly oppose this section because \$2 million is not from a new and independent source," said Villagomez.

He said the Fund lent money to the CGECU several years ago. The amount outstanding is \$1.576 million and monthly payments are \$15,000.

"This loan is an investment of the Fund and income from it is used partially to pay for the Fund's operations and pension payouts. The Fund is greatly concerned about the additional resources the CGECU might be required to expend to administer these early retirement loans because it will affect the CGECU's ability to repay its loan to the Fund," said Villagomez.

In the current financial status of the Fund, Villagomez said providing incentives to members to retire early will not reduce costs or increase available revenues.

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

NMC campuses closed today, Nov. 2

The Northern Marianas College would like to inform students and members in the community that all offices will be closed today, Nov. 2, 2010, due to Election Day. As such, all classes scheduled for this day are canceled. Offices will reopen and classes will resume the following day.

The college campus will also be closed on Thursday, Nov. 4, 2010, for Citizenship Day. Normal operations will resume the following day. (NMC)

Public Health Liaison Office relocation

In order to better streamline the Bureau of Environmental Health's services, the Department of Public Health will be relocating the Public Health Liaison Office that is presently located on the 2nd floor of the Afetnas Center to the BEH's main office building N-8 in Navy Hill, effective Nov. 10, 2010, Wednesday. Again, please be advised that all alien health and food handler certificates will be issued at the new PHLO location starting Nov. 10.

For more information, contact 664-4870/ 72, fax number 664-4871 or send BEH an email at divbeh1@pticom.com. (PR)

'POB not a perfect solution but gives CNMI flexibility on financing prospects'

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

NMI Retirement Fund administrator Richard Villagomez emphasized yesterday the importance of passing the two initiatives in today's ballots, explaining in the following statement how these measures will help alleviate the financial standing of the pension system.

Question: What is the purpose of House Legislative Initiative 17-1?

Answer: Currently, the Constitution limits the CNMI from incurring public debt for paying operating expenses and the debt that is allowed is limited to no more than 10 percent of the aggregate assessed value of real property in the CNMI (public

lands). HLI 17-1 proposes to authorize the CNMI to borrow money to pay its obligations to the retirees and members of Fund with proceeds from pension obligation bonds (POB). Please keep in mind that voting yes on HLI 17-1 will merely authorize the CNMI to issue POBs so that when the opportunity arises, the CNMI will be able to take advantage of the situation. The CNMI will not automatically be obligated to borrow right away. However, amending our Constitution is a long process so if we wait until the opportunity arises to then try to amend it, it might be too late.

As an example of an opportunity, the U.S. economy is still recovering from the recession of 2008 and many public pension

systems across the U.S. (and the world) have reported funding issues. President Obama has been digging deep into the federal government's pockets to stimulate the economy. An article in the *New York Times* (by Richard Riordan, the former mayor of Los Angeles) mentions the possibility of pension bonds being "guaranteed by the federal government." "Proceeds from the bond sales would cover" the pension fund's liabilities to address "the underfunding crisis." We need to be ready for this or any other possibilities.

Q: If I vote yes on HLI 17-1, will the CNMI be taking on additional debt?

A: No. The debt already exists in the form of unfunded liabilities and required employer

contributions that the CNMI government owes the Fund. You and I as taxpayers are already paying for it. The issuance of POBs will not be additional debt; rather it will be a refinancing of an existing debt. As we are all aware, refinancing makes sense when it reduces your overall payments.

Q: Does the CNMI have any experience in issuing bonds?

A: Yes, the CNMI has issued bonds in the past for various reasons including infrastructure improvement and land compensation. Payment on these bonds is current.

Q: How do POBs differ from other bonds? Can the money from POB be reprogrammed for other reasons?

A: Unlike other bonds where

the proceeds can be used by the state or municipality for a variety of reasons (i.e., can be reprogrammed as needed) POBs are specific in the use of proceeds in that it can *only* be used for the purpose intended. This purpose is to "refinance" the unfunded liability of a pension fund, otherwise known as UAAL. This is a key factor that the bond underwriter will take into consideration and make it a condition that all proceeds from the POBs be deposited to the Fund to improve its financial condition and ability to continue meeting its obligation to retired civil servants and future retirees.

Q: Who will issue the POBs and who will be obligated to repay?

A: The CNMI government will be the one to issue the bonds and have the obligation to pay it, not the Fund.

Q: Will there be collateral used to secure the POB?

A: The bond underwriters will likely require collateral to secure the POB. However, the assets held by the Fund in trust for beneficiaries *cannot* and *will not* be used as collateral to secure the POB. In no instance has a POB ever been secured by the assets of the pension fund. Furthermore, the employees' contributions will not be used to repay the POB. These monies will continue to be directly deposited to the Fund.

Q: Are there others who have used POBs to fund their retirement system?

A: Yes. The state of New York, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Alaska, Puerto Rico, Guahan (for COLA), Oregon, California, New Jersey, and others. We are not alone.

Q: Are there safeguards in HLI 17-1 to ensure the CNMI

does not abuse the authority of floating a POB?

A: Yes, the initiative includes safeguards in that it requires the CNMI to first obtain an expert/formal assessment as to the feasibility of floating a POB. Factors taken into consideration in the assessment will include: a) ability of the CNMI to repay the POBs; b) market conditions; c) funding requirements of the Fund; d) level of risk; and e) time frame. Additionally, a maximum limit of POBs is set at the unfunded accrued liability amount. So, if the funding level of the Retirement Fund improves via additional contributions from the CNMI government, investment returns, or a decrease in plan liabilities then less POBs will be authorized by our Constitution.

Q: Are there other safeguards?

A: Yes, HLI 16-13 is another safeguard in that it proposes that "The Legislature shall not increase benefits until all government obligations to the retirement fund system have been satisfied or the system is fully funded" and that "no law shall be enacted by the Legislature that will create an unfunded liability to the retirement system." For too many years, many laws have been passed that give added benefits to Fund members without adequate funding. This initiative will put a stop to added benefits without independent funding sources.

I emphasize HLI17-1 merely authorizes the CNMI to issue POBs. POBs are not a perfect solution but it gives the CNMI the flexibility to take advantage of financing opportunities that may arise. HLI16-13 is a safeguard that will help stabilize the retirement system.

Thank You

It has truly been a humbling experience to walk through your villages and into your homes.

I have listened intently to each of your concerns and desires for a more prosperous Commonwealth.

On behalf of my family and friends, I extend our sincere appreciation for allowing our team and I to share such valuable moments with you.

Today, you have the power to help chart the course for our islands' future.

Once again, I encourage you all to exercise your right to vote. I humbly ask that you consider me to be your partner in Washington D.C.

-Joseph Norita Camacho

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for U.S. DELEGATE

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BEFORE THE COMMONWEALTH PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

REGULATORY MATTERS CONCERNING COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION AND MICRONESIAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION DOCKETS 09-1 & 09-3

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Commission will conduct a public hearing, which will commence at 10:00 p.m. on Friday November 12, 2010 at the Saipan Chamber of Commerce's conference room in the Family Building Garapan to consider the following regulatory matters concerning the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation [CUC] and the Micronesian Telecommunications Corporation [MTC]:

1. CUC's October 25, 2010 petition for affirmation of its current unmetered wastewater tariff practices.
2. CUC's status reports on its efforts to: a) retain a risk management consultant to assist in developing a strategy regarding potential oil spills; b) mitigate non-technical line losses; and c) install meters for all residential and commercial water customers.
3. A stipulation between MTC and the Commission's regulatory consultant, which recommends terms for the resolution of the Commission's section 8421[a] review of MTC's local rates.
4. A proposed administrative order, which would establish a protocol for the annual review and certification of eligible telecommunications carriers' entitlement to federal high cost funding. A copy of the proposed order is posted on the Chamber's website.

Persons who desire to formally participate in the hearing pursuant to 4 CMC §8409(j) should on or before November 8, 2010 file with the Commission at the Saipan Chamber of Commerce offices an application and offer of proof in accordance with §8409(j) and Commission Procedural Rule 11(c). Further information about the public hearing and the public's right to participate may be obtained from Commissioner Calabrese at 670-233-7150.

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As your Delegate, I can work with the local CNMI leaders. When Federal, CNMI and Municipalities work together it will improve the lives of our people.

As your Delegate, I have the educational and professional background to make sure the CNMI is taken seriously and our unified voice is heard clearly in Washington, DC.

*The United States promised economic prosperity.
As your Delegate, I will hold them to that Promise.*

-Joseph Norita Camacho

Education: "Today's students are tomorrow's workforce"

- Prioritize the educational needs of our children by earmarking funding to go directly to teachers and classrooms for our children
- Maximize Vocational/Technical Certification Programs for High Schools & NMC to foster a sustainable work force

Economy: "Breaking down the barriers"

- Defend and expand the CNMI's unique tax system to encourage and attract businesses to invest in the CNMI
- Remove restrictions to allow businesses to grow and invest in order to create jobs for our people
- Leverage the authority of the US Congress to bring more airlines to the CNMI
- Protect and preserve our islands' environment to ensure continuation of our tourism industry
- Minimize and abolish federal taxes on imports and exports to alleviate the high cost of commodities
- Aggressively pursue the people's rights to waters adjacent to our islands that rightfully belongs to the CNMI and her people
- Remove obstacles to affordable and reliable health care

PLEASE VOTE #2 ON THE BALLOT



CAMACHO

JOSEPH NORITA

for U.S. DELEGATE





Motheread Institute participants pose with instructors and program staff at the conclusion of training.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Motheread parent-trainers certified

Can you identify?

THE NMI Council for the Humanities, in collaboration with the Saipan Tribune, is running a series of photographs in this section every Tuesday and is inviting the public to identify the persons or places featured in this section.



If you can identify the persons or places in the picture, please contact the NMI Council for the Humanities by telephone (235-4785), via email (photo@nmihumanities.org) or by visiting the Council's office located in Springs Plaza, Gualo Rai. These images are from the Council's Historic Photograph Database which is currently being developed to help document the history and cultures of the CNMI.



No one identified last week's photo.

Seventeen community volunteers became certified Motheread parent-trainers after completing a three-day Motheread Training Institute held on Saipan earlier this month.

Motheread is a nationally acclaimed family literacy program that teaches parents how to use stories to improve their children's academic skills in reading, writing, comprehension and critical thinking.

The program was introduced in the CNMI in 1998 by the NMI Council for the Humanities.

According to the Council's executive director, Scott Russell, the newly certified parent-trainers will facilitate Motheread sessions in elementary schools, Head Start centers and public libraries.

Parents who successfully

complete the program are given completion certificates, books, and book bags.

"The Council is very pleased to have the services of a new group of dedicated community volunteers and we look forward to expanding this important grassroots literacy program on Saipan, Tinian and Rota over the coming years," Russell said.

The training institute was supported by a major grant from the Bank of Hawaii Charitable Foundation and additional donations by DFS Saipan, the Bank of Guam, the Bank of Saipan, and the Tan Siu Lin Foundation.

Parents wishing to enroll in the Motheread program are invited to contact Motheread coordinator Viola S. Deleon Guerrero at 235-7319 or email at cnmimotheread@gmail.com. (PR)

GAO begins work on compact impact study

The Government Accountability Office has begun work on a study of the impact aid provided by Congress to offset the costs of migration from the Freely Associated States. The study was requested by U.S. Rep. Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan and Members of Congress from Arkansas, Hawaii, and other areas affected by the migration.

"Staff have already met with the GAO to further define the scope of work for the compact-impact study," Sablan said. "And at GAO's request I have contacted Governor Fitial and asked him to designate a point of contact on the study."

GAO expects to complete the report next year.

Under the Compacts of Free Association between the U.S. and the three Freely Associated States of the Palau, the Marshall Islands, and the

Federated States of Micronesia, citizens of those countries are allowed to travel to the U.S. to live and work without a visa or work authorization. The CNMI, Guam and Hawaii have been the jurisdictions most affected by this migration, incurring substantial costs for services to these immigrants, including health care and education.

In 2003 Congress provided funds to help offset these costs, but the CNMI, Guam, and Hawaii contend the aid is insufficient. Since then other States, such as Arkansas, have seen significant FAS migration and felt the fiscal impact.

"My colleagues and I asked the GAO to evaluate the situation and provide recommendations that will help us in crafting legislation to address the compact-impact issue," Sablan said. (PR)

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Nov. 2, 1999

Road paving in Capitol Hills questioned

Senate Floor Leader Pete P. Reyes has expressed concern on the paving being undertaken by the Department of Public Works along the major road in Capitol Hills, saying such project should be done on several secondary roads on the island. He said he had received numerous calls from his constituents, questioning the asphalt paved last week on top of the cemented road that is largely in good condition. While acknowledging the authority of the executive branch to embark on such projects, Reyes said the administration should have considered first the bad state of most secondary roads.

Froilan's case should not be delayed further

Lawyer Theodore Mitchell asked the Superior Court yesterday to deny former Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio's request for postponement of the court proceedings that involve the \$12.4 million lawsuit alleging public fund misuse. Mitchell, who represents plaintiff Jeanne Rayphand in the taxpayer's suit, is worried that further postponement of the hearing would stall final resolution of the case. The Superior Court is scheduled to hear on Nov. 10 Tenorio's motion for reconsideration of Special Judge Benjamin Cruz's 1997 decision which found the former governor liable for misspending the government's 1994 budget. Tenorio last week asked the court to take his motion for reconsideration off calendar pending resolution of the question of whether or not he is entitled to public legal representation.

Nov. 2, 2000

Proposed bill passes medical costs to guest workers

Employees in the private sector would have to shoulder 50 percent of the cost of their medical treatment if they get sick for 60 days or more should a proposed legislation amending the Nonresident Workers Act becomes a law. According to David A. Wiseman, director of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, the proposal will implement substantial changes in the CNMI's policies with respect to employer's responsibilities in paying medical expenses. House Bill 12-275 has been approved in the House of Representatives and is now pending in the Senate. Medical expenses of the employers will not cover psychiatric treatment unless it is included in the medical coverage package. All medical care of any kind must be certified by a licensed doctor in the CNMI as medically necessary for the preservation or rehabilitation of the worker's physical health.

Aranza gets lashing from Chamber

Saipan Chamber of Commerce director Richard Pierce yesterday lambasted Office of Insular Affairs Director Danny Aranza for his arrogance in saying that the labor situation in the CNMI is still "disgusting." Mr. Aranza visited the CNMI last week to deliver the \$12 million federal funds. During his meeting with business leaders, Mr. Aranza offered to provide assistance in improving the economic situation in the Northern Marianas. When businesses told him that the best thing he could do was to help them stop Washington's plan to takeover local immigration and wage control, Mr. Aranza said he could not do anything about it since the position of U.S. President Clinton has not changed.

Nov. 2, 2001

Lang: People want changes

Surrounded by high-spirited supporters—some of them wearing spooky masks and hats on Halloween—Reform Party gubernatorial candidate Froilan Tenorio said he expects the Commonwealth's voting public not to empower another Republican administration. He ended his campaign by showing disapproval for Washington Rep. Juan Babauta, one of the four candidates battling for the hotly contested top executive post. "I expect that the people, if they want changes, would rather have people from another party. I don't think they want changes to the extent of replacing a Republican administration with another Republican administration," Tenorio said. Babauta, the incumbent Washington Representative, is the standard bearer of the Republican Party.

OPA to WRO No one is above NMI procurement regs

Not only did the Washington Representative Office failed to adhere to the CNMI procurement regulations but it also insisted that it is not subject to such rules. This was the findings of an audit conducted by the Office of the Public Auditor on the WRO's administrative and management practices covering the period from fiscal years 1995 to 1996. According to the OPA, Washington Rep. Juan N. Babauta and other officials of the WRO have been insisting that their office is not subject to the procurement rules of the CNMI, particularly since they do not have written procedures for such.



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Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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AP The Associated Press

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EDITORIAL

Japan, India must deepen security, economic ties

India, a major power in South Asia, is not only a promising market with a fast-developing economy but also is a country that shares concerns with Japan over China's military expansion.

Tokyo should strategically enhance its partnership with India in both economic and security fields.

Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh visited Japan in October and agreed with Prime Minister Naoto Kan to establish a ministerial-level economic dialogue between the two countries.

Japan has been holding similar ministerial talks with China. But the aftermath of a Chinese fishing vessel's collision with Japan Coast Guard patrol boats off the Senkaku Islands in September has revealed that China, under the single-party regime of the Chinese Communist Party, does not hesitate to use high-handed diplomatic measures over economic and personnel exchanges to push its political demands.

By contrast, India is a democratic country and shares similar values with Japan, such as the rule of law. It does not present the political risks that China does. Besides, India has a population of 1.2 billion, the second-largest after China, and maintains a high economic growth rate of 9 percent annually.

Enhancement of Japan's economic partnership with India will alleviate the nation's economic dependence on China.

In their summit talks, Kan and Singh also agreed that Japan will help India increase production of rare earths, which are indispensable in manufacturing many high-tech products. India's output of rare earths is far behind China's but is still the second-largest in the world.

We think Japan's cooperation agreement with India in this field is very timely. It is an urgent task for Japan to redress the current situation, in which the nation is totally dependent on China for its imports of rare earths.

The two leaders also officially endorsed an economic partnership agreement and promised each other to put it into effect as soon as possible.

With the agreement, India's tariffs on imports of Japanese auto parts and steel would be abolished within 10 years. This would enable Japanese companies manufacturing products in India to drastically reduce the costs of procuring parts from Japan.

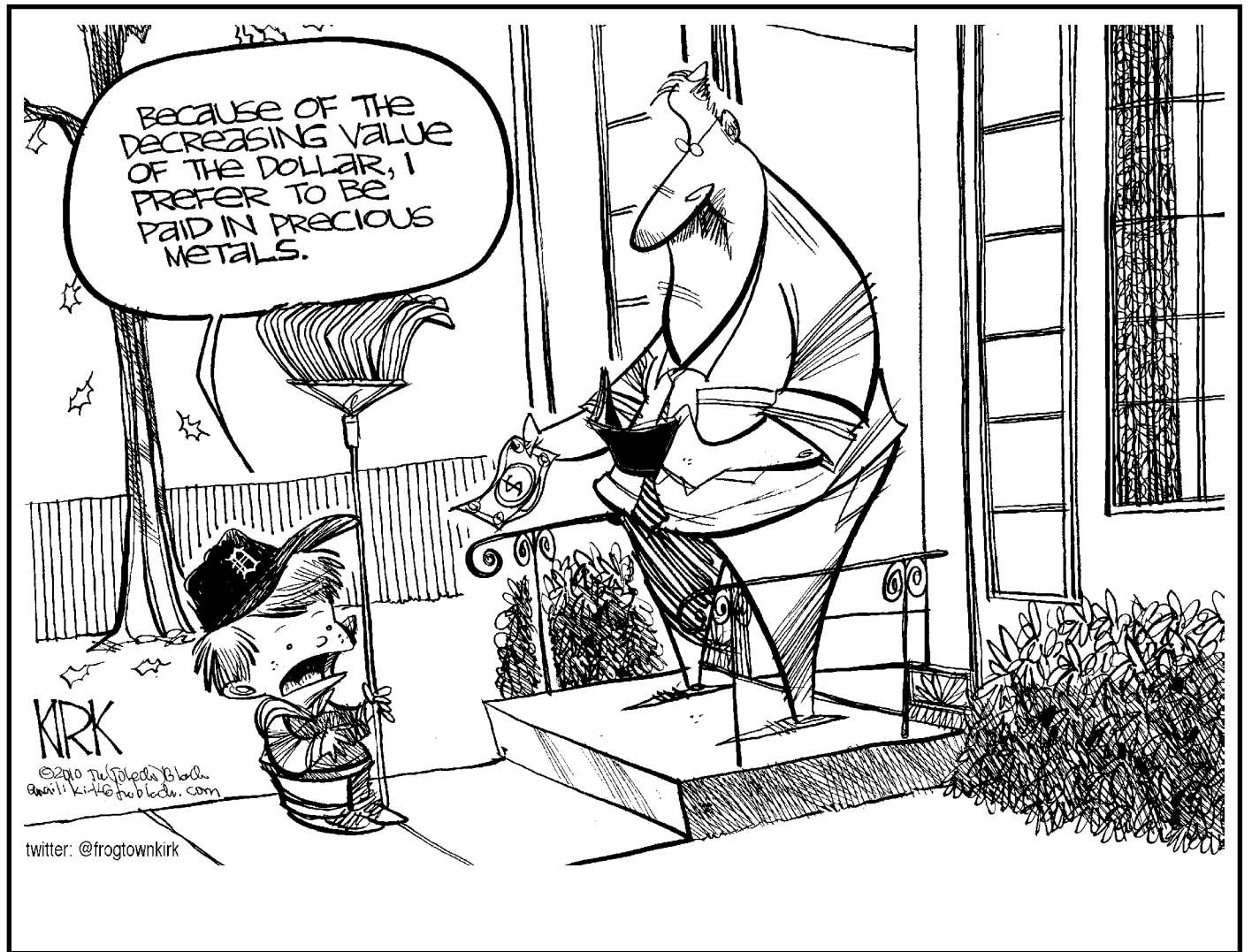
The agreement also will simplify procedures for Japanese businesspeople to obtain visas for brief visits or longer stays in India. It will surely help expand business opportunities for Japan in the country.

Security cooperation between the two countries is significant, too. Japan faces a direct threat from China's maritime expansion in the East China Sea, while India is exposed to a similar threat in the Indian Ocean.

Japan and India should actively utilize vice-ministerial talks between their foreign and defense ministries, which were established at the end of last year, to discuss common strategy regarding China, such as measures to ensure the safety of sea lanes.

The two countries also need to seek partnerships with the United States, and then with the Southeast Asian countries that stand at the forefront of friction with China. To realize this goal, Japan and India, regional powers in Asia, must further deepen bilateral relations.

(c) 2010, The Yomiuri Shimbun



D-day is E*day

We trek to the polls today, those who did not avail of the early voting privilege. Those who opted for an absentee ballot, we make sure our ballots are P.O. stamped today.

In soldiering parlance, D-day would be, "Attenhut!" E*day would be, "At ease." Obviously, I am making this up, but that is the nature of human existence these days: you make up your story, or someone else will make it up for you.

In our particular puncture pedagogy, (and in my religious tradition, Gogarten's *Christ the Crisis* theology), we assume that everyone operate out of images. Images determine behavior. Change the image and behavior changes. Images, however, do not lend themselves to change easily. We build elaborate castles in the sky, or float leisurely on inflated balloons of illusions, or roam freely in the delusory mindscape of Hollywood and the Internet. In any case, we guard our images closely and dearly because it is what defines who we are. But reality intrudes; truth insists on setting us free. In science, a paradigm shift occurs. In Christianity, we see the light/receive the word, overcome original sin.

World religions have all developed processes of catharsis and salvation to unhinge one from the gripping mire of bondage. We then turn fanatical and idolize our methods at the expense of celebrating the reality that liberates us. Our moments of redemption very quickly calcify into unreality again. Idolatry sets in once more, either of idealized substance or treasured process, and trumps the fresh air of "faith," the celebration of the height, depth and breath, the greatness of our existence.

The myriad images of delusions and illusions on Election Day are endless. The one that shaped up in this current one was the concerted effort to take down our two-year incumbent. A colleague in the Democratic Party opined that this election is not for the three contenders to win, but for the incumbent to lose. The current administration seem to have decided on a preference of "anyone but..." Close to engaging in scorch-earth tactics, groups identified as indigenous took on ads calling the incumbent a liar, accusing him of betrayal at the altar of self-determination.

This is not surprising. The national midterm elections is replete with repeat postings of anti-Obama reruns, from his legal license to practice (and that of Michelle), surrendered under suspicion of unspecified transgressions, to his birth (allegedly not a naturally born citizen), religious affiliation (he attended a *madrasah* in Indonesia so that makes him a Muslim), to being a socialist/communist as well as a CIA operative (this latter is admittedly true). You name it, and the obstacle to thwart progressive left, conservative right and muddled middle support has been thrown on Barack's path, presumably to induce a climate of change to bring down the Democratic Party's majority presence in the halls of Congress. This is expected. Midterm elections are programmed exercises to develop an incumbent's

By JAIME VERGARA

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's Opinion Section



self-defense and self-preservation skills.

I do not think this election is for Kilili to lose. I think it is an election for the Marianas electorate to show their maturity and quit acting as if we were a banana republic, convincing arguments to that effect from sources other than the usual suspects notwithstanding.

E*day should launch Ease Day. However the outcome, there are many avenues for service available to any of the candidates post-election. In fact, the electorates' task only begins with voting. How to empower the congressional office, regardless of the occupant, and lend the voters' enlightened reflections, unrestrained rational discourse, and generous material support is the next order of business. "It is not what your country can do for you..." echoes in the long corridors of American history, that is, if self-determination is within the possibilities and limits of being American, rather than the jingoistic adumbration of the discontented vocal few!

So, by midnight, we should have an idea of where the wind is blowing. In the last election, we waited for the absentee ballot count but the ratio then was consistent with the general voting trend. There is no reason to think this will be different. In any case, we should all rest easy by sun up. And then the real work begins.

The "economy, stupid" was Carville's mantra in the first Clinton election. Economy as the generation of value, substantially and technologically, is what the economy is based on. It involves resources, production, and distribution. Our major resource asset is the real estate that Uncle Sam wants for its strategic military location. That's what we signed up for. As the tides of more diplomacy-settled foreign relations, as well as the general public's emergence out of our Neolithic propensity for war advances, the rationale for perennial conflict out of fear will not last long. Those who do not see possibilities are blind, those who do not grasp limits are foolish. It is time to move "self-determination" out of the shadows of Iberian "honor and respect" to the practical issues of human survival and sustainability.

We have two years before the next hyped ritual of election. We trust that we shall have moved further in structuring participatory democracy so that electing representatives becomes an act of response-ability rather than choosing who to next blame and crucify. Citizens, at ease!

EDITORIAL POLICY

The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, Century Insurance Building, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Exposing the risks of House Legislative Initiative 17-1

“We must not let our rulers load us with perpetual debt. We must make our election between economy and liberty, or profusion and servitude.”—Thomas Jefferson

On Nov. 2, voters will be asked to make a decision on House Legislative Initiative 17-1, which proposes to change the CNMI Constitution in order to authorize the CNMI government to issue pension obligation bonds.

Currently, Section 4 of Article X limits public indebtedness to not more than 10 percent of the aggregate assessed valuation of real property in the CNMI, and further prohibits public indebtedness for operating expenses of the CNMI government. House Legislative Initiative 17-1 proposes to add a new Section 10 that would permit the government to issue pension obligation bonds, and would exempt these bonds from the public indebtedness limitations provided in Section 4.

In other words, if this initiative passes, the government would be authorized to issue pension obligation bonds that exceed 10 percent of the aggregate assessed valuation of real property in the Commonwealth, and would in effect be borrowing for operations. The only limitation on public indebtedness provided in this initiative is that the cumulative amount of pension obligation bonds issued “shall not exceed the Commonwealth’s actuarially determined unfunded accrued liability to the Retirement Fund.”

No ceiling on borrowing

As of 2008, that amount already exceeded a staggering half a billion dollars. It could grow, for any number of reasons: the Legislature could pass more laws increasing retirement benefits without identifying a source of funding; the stock markets could tank; the government could fail to pay employer contributions; the government could fail to pay the ever-growing \$300 million judgment awarded to the Fund, etc. The initiative provides no numerical ceiling on what the amount of borrowing could be.

No safeguards

Proponents of the pension obligation initiative have claimed that the initiative is written with certain “safeguards” in place to ensure that pension obligation bonds would only be issued “when the time is right” and pursuant to feasibility studies and expert advice. They have also presented POBs as just “one possible option” out of many options being explored to address the government’s obligations to the Fund.

First, no such purported safeguards actually exist in the initiative. The findings of the initiative suggest that such a feasibility study *should* be done prior to the issuance of any pension obligation bond, but there is nothing in the actual binding text of the initiative that requires that such a study *would* be done. There is also nothing in the initiative that would require the government to heed the expert advice against the issuance of pension obligation bonds. Indeed, our government has a history of ignoring the advice and warnings of experts, having failed for years to pay employer contributions on time and at the recommended actuarial rate. The \$300 million judgment awarded to the Fund in Superior Court nearly a year and a half ago, of which not a single penny has been paid to date, is directly the result of our government’s refusal to abide by expert studies and advice.

Other safeguards are missing from House Legislative Initiative 17-1. For example, nothing would prohibit the Legislature from increasing retirement benefits either before or after the issuance of a pension obligation bond. (House Legislative Initiative 16-13, which is also on the ballot this year, proposes to restrict the Legislature’s

ability to increase retirement benefits before the retirement system is fully funded, but its passage is uncertain since the question is vague and poorly constructed.) In addition, after the issuance of pension obligation bonds and the infusion of money into the Fund, nothing in this initiative would prohibit future government borrowing or so-called “investments” from the Fund to satisfy other government obligations, as the government has done in recent years with both the Retirement Fund and Marianas Public Lands Trust.

Despite proponents’ claims to the contrary, it is difficult to escape the impression that the pension obligation bond is the *only* option that the administration and Fund officials are banking on. While taxpayer dollars have been spent on a heavily one-sided “public education” campaign to convince voters to pass the pension obligation bond initiative, no payments whatsoever have been made toward the \$300 million judgment awarded to the Fund, and efforts to come up with a sensible payment plan or to pursue any of the numerous revenue streams and assets previously identified by Fund officials and concerned citizens seem to have been all but scrapped.

Dismissive, vague, and misleading claims

The POB proponents’ responses to questions about how in the world our bankrupt CNMI government could possibly take on new, massive, and inflexible debt have generally been dismissive (“Who cares how the government pays off its debt?”), vague (“Experts will help the government figure that out.”), or misleading (“This is not new debt.”).

Without presenting any solid basis for their assurances, POB proponents have promised that no new taxes would be introduced in order to make bond payments, and suggested that the government’s employer contributions to the Fund would be a sufficient source of payment for bond obligations. They have compared issuing a pension obligation bond to refinancing a debt that bears a high interest rate with one that bears a lower interest rate, and have claimed that the CNMI could realize cost savings. But as actuarial consultants Gabriel, Roeder, Smith and Company have noted, “[T]he long-term, actual investment performance of the retirement plan is what determines the final savings or cost of issuing the POB ... [I]t is not possible to know in advance whether the POB will produce any long-term savings at all.” (“Questions to Consider Before Issuing Pension Obligation Bonds,” *GRS Insight*, Vol. 4, Issue 1, February 2004).

‘Serious risks’

Earlier this year, the Center for State and Local Government Excellence, a nonprofit, nonpartisan research organization, released an issue brief examining the viability of pension obligation bonds. The authors of the brief, all professors and researchers in management sciences, public affairs, and retirement studies, noted “serious risks” associated with issuing POBs, including financial risk (if the cost of borrowing exceeds investment returns over the duration of the debt), the inflexibility of the debt that would be incurred and the required annual payments, and political temptations to increase retirement benefits upon issuance of POBs, even if underfunding still exists. The authors also analyzed rates of return on POBs issued since 1992, and found that by mid-2009 “most POBs have been a net drain on government revenues” and that “POBs could well leave plan sponsors worse off than they were before they issued the POB.” They concluded that although POBs could theoretically be a

useful tool for fiscally healthy governments with well-funded pension plans, in practice “the governments that issue POBs are those facing the greatest fiscal stress that are the least able to shoulder the additional risks from a POB.” (“Pension Obligation Bonds: Financial Crisis Exposes Risks,” Munnell et al., January 2010.)

There is no question that our government is facing severe fiscal stress. Even the proponents of House Legislative Initiative 17-1 acknowledge that. Our government has a long history of deferring payments and neglecting its obligations to the Retirement Fund, CUC, vendors, Worker’s Compensation, insurance, civil service employees’ merit increases, and numerous judgments against the government, not least of which is the \$300 million judgment awarded to the Fund. Our government has also technically defaulted or come close to default on at least two of its bond obligations (the airport and seaport improvement bonds), after years of failure to satisfy revenue-to-bond payment ratio requirements and to issue timely financial reports. In addition, we face the largest fiscal deficit in the history of the CNMI: as of September 2009, that figure stood at \$300.8million, and has only grown since then.

Can we afford more debt?

Whether we are government retirees or not, we *all* should care about the costly ramifications of changing our Constitution in order to allow our government to borrow far beyond its means. We should recognize that pension obligation bonds are an extremely risky business, and that our government is in no position now or in the near future to shoulder that risk. We should recognize that the interest payments on these bonds will indeed represent more new debt that we cannot afford. We should recognize that our government has a history of making disastrous fiscal policy decisions that arise at least in part out of a failure to seek expert advice and to ignore expert advice even when it is sought. We should learn from the mistakes of other state and local governments that have issued pension obligation bonds over the past two decades, and today find themselves mired in more debt than before. We should think not just for ourselves but for future generations as well.

Before we vote on House Legislative Initiative 17-1, we should ask ourselves if there is any evidence at all to suggest that our government is in a position now, or in the near future, to be incurring more debt. Limits on public indebtedness were enshrined in our Constitution for good reason. During this time of unprecedented fiscal crisis created by years of runaway government spending and recklessness, we should be looking for ways to strengthen those safeguards, not take them away. Given that our government has so abjectly failed to exercise sound fiscal discipline, or to undertake obvious and sensible measures to streamline government operations, improve accountability, and enforce existing laws that generate revenue, can we really afford to allow ourselves to be dragged into more debt? We have already borrowed ourselves into insolvency, and critical public services are now in jeopardy. Taking on more public debt and more investment risks in order to attempt to mask our fiscal crisis would be akin to a gambler who has lost all his money, maxed out all his credit cards, and seeks to borrow more money so he can try to recover what he has lost. We all know how that story ends.

Tina Sablan and Glen Hunter

Fina Sisu, Saipan

Don’t fix something that ain’t broken

I will be blunt. I want Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan to continue working as our delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives. A one-page letter to the editor is not enough to list Kilili’s accomplishments in just two years. All the information can be found on his campaign website, www.kililiforcongress.com.

I will tell you why Kilili is a cut above the rest. I will give you 10 reasons why Kilili is nothing like his opponents:

1. Kilili is never late. He respect us, his constituents, so much that he makes it a point to be on time, if not early, in every event he is invited to.

2. Kilili does not bribe us with cases of beer. He does not insult our intelligence by making us drunk to win political favors.

3. Kilili lives a humble lifestyle. Kilili lives in a spartan studio apartment and pays his own rent unlike one candidate who, as Washington representative, lived in a house in a very exclusive Washington suburb, costing hundreds of thousands of dollars paid for by CNMI taxpayers.

4. Kilili does not suck up to Fitial. As editor Zaldy Dandan said in a previous editorial, Kilili is known for his willingness and ability

to reach out, but he alone among the CNMI’s politicians has the decency and courage to speak on behalf of the islands’ silent, suffering majority against this insufferable administration.

5. Kilili does not switch parties to get elected. He does not work for the Republican Party, for Democrats, much less the Covenant Party. “I work for you,” Kilili said in a speech both at the Rotary and the Saipan Chamber debate. He is not like the candidate who was a Republican-turned-Independent-turned Covenant.

6. Kilili listens to us. He is not afraid to face his constituents and listen to our complaints and criticisms at his town hall meetings. Only Kilili has held numerous town hall meeting for us.

7. Kilili stands up for our welfare. He was not afraid to face President Obama at the White House to say that the CNMI should be included in the health care reform bill. And he definitely was not afraid to tell Madeleine Bordallo that the Marianas Trench Monument Visitor Center rightfully belongs to the CNMI. When then Governor Froilan Tenorio said, “No” to Covenant funding, his lieutenant governor said nothing.

8. Kilili brings home the bacon. Aside from the ARRA money, congressional earmarks and other grants that he voted for in Congress, Kilili spends his annual office budget in the CNMI, pumping dollars into local businesses.

9. Kilili is proud of his fellow islanders. He stands in front of his colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to extol the positive traits of the people of the Northern Marianas Islands.

10. Kilili works hard for us. The CNMI would not be getting millions of federal dollars if Kilili only spend time on a junket.

Bottom line is the CNMI has never seen a politician as dedicated and passionate about helping the whole CNMI community. Kilili keeps his word and we can trust him. Why should we take our chances on the others? Why fix something that is not broken. Let us help our community by re-electing Kilili so he can continue his good work in Congress.






Peter M. Fejeran

Falughulo, Oleai

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

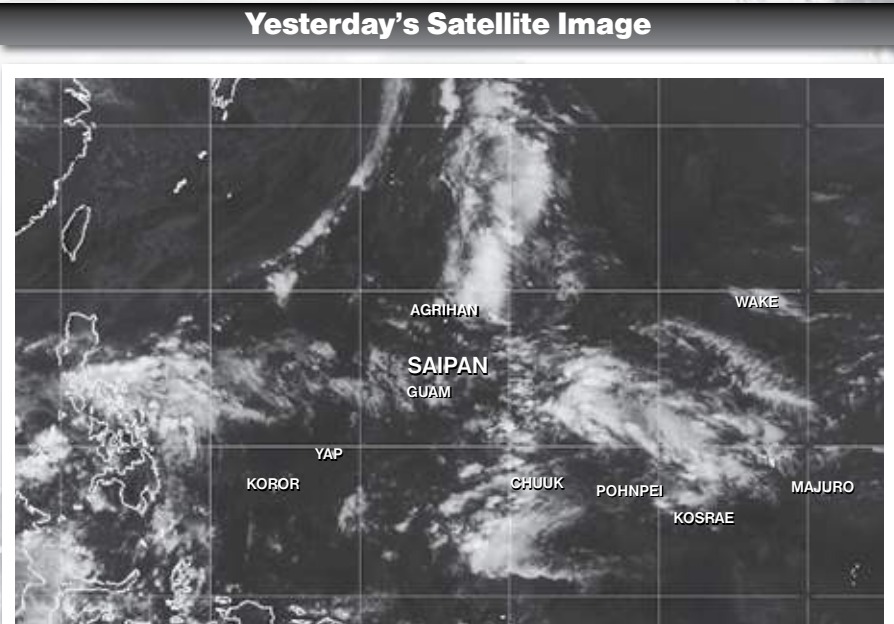
5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 86° ▼ 76°	▲ 86° ▼ 76°	▲ 86° ▼ 76°	▲ 87° ▼ 77°	▲ 87° ▼ 77°

Micronesia			
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	▲ 87 ▼ 79	
Palau	Showers	▲ 86 ▼ 78	
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲ 89 ▼ 78	
Chuuk	Rain	▲ 82 ▼ 77	
Pohnpei	Rain	▲ 85 ▼ 72	
Kosrae	Showers	▲ 90 ▼ 75	
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲ 83 ▼ 75	

Around The Globe			
Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▲ 65 ▼ 54	
Beijing	Sunny	▲ 63 ▼ 36	
Hong Kong	Sunny	▲ 79 ▼ 57	
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲ 83 ▼ 73	
London	Showers	▲ 56 ▼ 49	
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲ 86 ▼ 61	
Manila	Thundershowers	▲ 84 ▼ 76	
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲ 59 ▼ 49	
Miami	Thundershowers	▲ 85 ▼ 74	
New York	Sunny	▲ 52 ▼ 37	
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	▲ 61 ▼ 51	
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 57 ▼ 46	
Pusan	Sunny	▲ 59 ▼ 43	
Rome	Showers	▲ 69 ▼ 51	
Salem	Showers	▲ 66 ▼ 48	
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲ 75 ▼ 58	
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	▲ 56 ▼ 36	
Tokyo	Sunny	▲ 61 ▼ 49	
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	▲ 55 ▼ 42	

Tides			
Saipan Harbor			
3:22 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.5 Feet
9:47 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.3 Feet
4:24 PM	Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet
10:58 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.5 Feet



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2010
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

An upper-level trough is located north of the Marianas. The trough stretches northwestward from 18N149E to beyond 25N at 134E. Upper-level divergence east of the trough axis is generating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms within 110 miles of a line from 20N147E to 25N149E. An upper-level low is centered east of Wake Island near 20N172E. Scattered showers are occurring near Wake within 45 miles of a line from 20N166E to 19N170E. A cold front curves northeastward from 20N130E to beyond 25N at 139E. Scattered showers are found southeast of Okinawa along and up to 70 miles northwest of this boundary. Trade-wind convergence is generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms north of Pohnpei and Kosrae in an area bounded by a line from 16N155E to 12N152E to 6N162E to 11N168E back to 16N155E. Similar weather is also present near Chuuk in an area bounded by a line from 2N144E to 2N152E to 9N154E to 12N149E back to 2N144E.

Sunrise/Sunset			Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	6:13 AM	5:48 PM	Today	1:58 AM	2:29 PM
Wednesday	6:14 AM	5:47 PM	Wednesday	2:56 AM	3:14 PM
Thursday	6:14 AM	5:47 PM	Thursday	3:55 AM	3:59 PM
Friday	6:14 AM	5:47 PM	Friday	4:55 AM	4:47 PM
Saturday	6:15 AM	5:46 PM	Saturday	5:57 AM	5:39 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMUT SARI
Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

■ CAMPUS BULLETIN
Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.

■ Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan

To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.



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Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

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- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 2, 2010											
DEPARTURES						ARRIVALS					
SAIPAN-GUAM						GUAM-SAIPAN					
C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily			C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily		
C09313	7:55am	8:45am	3, 6			C09596	6:35am	7:25am	3, 6		
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7			C09596	7:00am	7:50am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7		
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7			C09600	10:05am	10:55am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7		
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7			C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7		
C09605	6:20pm	7:10pm	Daily			C09604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily		
C09599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily			C09606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily		
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)						NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN					
DL287	6:10am	8:45am	Daily			DL298	10:25am	3:05pm	Daily		
DL285	6:40am	9:15am	Daily			DL286	3:50pm	8:25pm	Daily		
DL297	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily			DL288	8:00pm	12:30am+1	Daily		
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)						BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN					
OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5			OZ607	9:10pm	2:20am+1	4, 7		
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)						SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN					
OZ604	2:10am	6:00am	1			OZ605	9:00am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7		
OZ604	2:40am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7			OZ603	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7		
OZ606	3:20pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7			OZ603	8:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6		
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)						SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN					
FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6			FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5		
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)						MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN					
OZ604/701	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN			OZ704/605	12:10am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN		
OZ604/701	2:40am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			DL172/286	7:55am	8:25pm	Daily via NRT		
C09317/891	2:45am	9:45am	3, 6 via GUM			C0890/9606	10:55am	8:50pm	3, 6 via GUM		
DL285/173	6:40am	10:15pm	Daily via NRT			OZ702/603	1:10pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN		
C09313/893	7:55am	10:10pm	3 via GUM-Palau			OZ702/603	1:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN		
C09603/933	3:05pm	8:40pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7 via GUM			C0892/9596	9:55pm	7:25am+1	3 via GUM- Palau		
C09603/893	3:05pm	10:10pm	5 via GUM- Palau			C0892/9596	9:55pm	7:50am+1	6 via GUM- Palau		
OZ606/703	3:20pm	11:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7 ICN			PR110/C0596	10:00pm	7:25am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM		
C09599/PR111	9:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM			C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	1, 2, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		
						C0934/9596	11:25pm	7:50am+1	3, 5 via GUM		
SAIPAN-HONG KONG						HONG KONG-SAIPAN					
OZ604/721	2:10am	12:00am	1 via ICN			OZ724/605	12:30am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN		
OZ604/721	2:40am	12:00am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			OZ722/603	1:30pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN		
C09603/909	3:05pm	9:25pm	1, 5 via GUM			OZ722/603	1:30pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN		
OZ606/723	3:20pm	10:35pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN			C0910/9596	10:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM		
Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana											
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The <i>Saipan Tribune</i> is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)											

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE									
Airline		ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline		ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota					FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily	
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily		FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily	
Rota-Saipan					FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily	
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily		FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily	
Guam-Rota					FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily	
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily		FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily	
Rota-Saipan					FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily	
Saipan-Rota					Tinian-Saipan				
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily		FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily	
Rota-Guam					FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily	
FRE 100	10:20	10:45	Daily		FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily	
Saipan-Rota					FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily	
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily		FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily	
Rota-Guam					FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily	
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily		FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily	
					FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily	
Saipan-Tinian					FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily	
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily		FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily	
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily		FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily	
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily		FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily	
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily		FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily	
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily						
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily						

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- | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Bracelets up to \$2,000 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Charm Bracelets ... up to \$2,000 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Broken Necklaces up to \$1,500 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Service Awards .. up to \$500 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Necklaces up to \$2,500 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Charms up to \$300 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Pens up to \$400 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Broken Bracelets .. up to \$1,500 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Rings up to \$500 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold School Rings up to \$500 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Watches up to \$1,750 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Cuff Links up to \$300 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Watch Cases up to \$750 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Chains up to \$1,000 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Nugget Rings up to \$800 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Broken Rings up to \$500 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Watch Bands up to \$1,000 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Earrings up to \$200 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Pocket Watches up to \$750 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Brooches up to \$1,000 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Wedding Bands up to \$350 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dental Gold up to \$900 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Link Bracelets up to \$2,500 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Coins up to \$15,000 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Bangles up to \$850 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Scrap up to \$1,250 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Broken Chains up to \$1,000 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Bars up to \$15,000 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Pendants up to \$300 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Nugget Bracelets .. up to \$2,500 | | |

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SILVER DOLLARS, SILVER HALVES, SILVER QUARTERS, SILVER DIMES

- \$1.00 Silver** (1935 & earlier) **\$9 up to \$12,500**
50C Silver (1964 & earlier)..... **\$3 up to \$2,000**
25C Silver (1964 & earlier)..... **\$1.50 up to \$750**
10C Silver (1964 & earlier)..... **\$.50 up to \$250**

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Grading the candidates

This delegate race offers the optimum opportunity to generate classroom lessons on a single political race with the least contamination by other officials and other issues being involved. I will share with the public the same chart that I have used in government classes on how to pick the best candidate. It is relatively easy to get 20 or 30 students in a class to be fair and objective but the true challenge is getting adult voters to apply a fair and objective approach to grading candidates. Bias and subjective grading is not accurate nor is it a fair assessment. For example, I'm sure voters don't want their child graded on how well the teacher likes their child because we expect students to be graded fairly on their academic deeds. The same is true for grading politicians. Voters have to be objective and honest to select the best candidate.

The formal requirements for being elected are a matter of law (citizenship, age, and residency) but voters really need to use this chart of *informal requirements* to make a scientific and educated decision about whom to vote for in the delegate race and in all future races. Incidentally, the real purpose of pocket meetings is to gather data on candidates so you can grade them accurately—not to eat and drink free beer. I can promise voters the CNMI will be a much better place socially, economically and politically if all voters followed this simple guide fairly and objectively.

Grade candidates based on facts using a 1-10 scale in each category—the first was done for you. A political science degree is the most important for a person in the U. S. Congress.

There is no way a bad candidate can get elected if all voters followed this simple chart using an objective assessment. This field of candidates should make it really easy due to their vast differences in the many areas of the informal requirements. If voters will grade the candidates honestly, fairly and objectively the total points won't lie to you and you should know who deserves your vote because

How's that again?

Nov. 4, Citizenship Day, was supposed to be one of those unpaid holidays—meaning that instead of taking the day off but getting paid anyway (a true paid holiday), government employees were supposed to take the day off, but not get paid. Until Uncle Ben declared it a paid holiday after all—by charging it against their annual leave time. However, then it's not a true paid holiday, because a true paid holiday doesn't use up annual leave time.

In fact, what seems to be happening is that the employee loses TWO days without pay. S/he loses the paid holiday, AND s/he loses eight hours of leave—another day without pay. (Maybe under the austerity rules, only seven hours will be deducted?)

What kind of flim-flammy is that? It reduces government's "unfunded liability"—all that leave time that employees have accrued that there isn't enough money to pay for—but it certainly doesn't benefit the employee.

Is it even legal to co-opt employees' annual leave time without the agreement/permission of the employee?

Ruth L. Tighe
Tanapag, Saipan

Informal Requirements	J. Borja	J. Camacho	K. Sablan	J. Babauta
Education (political science degree preferred)	8-Law	7-Admin	4 -HS	10-Pol. Sci.
Experience (political, education, health, safety, econ.)				
Track record of accomplishments				
Political connections (CNMI & Washington)				
Political power (CNMI & Washington)				
Vision or plan for our economy & future				
Most potential for success in Washington				
Motivation, public service record				
Stature and status in politics (CNMI & Wash.)				
Stature and character in society for leadership				
TOTALS				

one candidate is going to stand out about the rest. You don't have to worry about a tie with this group of candidates because one will clearly stand out over the other candidates.

I know some voters will appreciate my efforts on voter education but I'm also sure some will hate my efforts because the truth hurts sometimes. But that's life and you can't please all the people all the time. However, I do know what I have been writing about Juan N. Babauta being the best is the truth about this class of candidates and the politics of this election. I am extremely confident that this grading chart will prove to most voters that Juan N. Babauta is the best in this class if they will grade the candidates like a teacher.

Civic Virtue is a vital part of electing the candidates to have the

best government possible and we need more voters to practice this critical principle of voting for the CNMI over their personal concerns or we will lose again on Nov. 2 and we will continue to lose unless we get lucky or divine intervention saves us. We voted ourselves into this political and economic mess. Now we must start voting ourselves out of this political and economic mess by voting for the only candidate with real support in Congress and a plan to revitalize our economy through congressional legislation, Juan N. Babauta.

Ambrose M. Bennett
Kagman, Saipan



TRICK-OR-TREATERS

Christian "Magas" Demapan poses with his cousins, Gengen "Snooki," Roman "Dr. Bebe" and press secretary Angel Demapan's daughters, Kayla "Pop Star" and Ina "Lady Bug" at the American Memorial Park during the trick-or-treating activities.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy birthday to Crystal Songsong! May God bless you on your birthday today, Nov. 2, 2010! And may your special day be filled with memories, smiles, laughter and love. Have an awesome day and a fabulous year! Wishing you all the best! Have fun! We love you!! Greetings come from your cousin Careza and from the rest of your families and friends!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Belated happy birthday greetings go out to Crystal Breanna Boyer Cabrera who celebrated her birthday yesterday, Nov. 1! Hope you had a fabulous one! May you be blessed with many more birthdays to come! Much love coming out from all your family and friends!



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Belated birthday greetings go to Cleo Nening who celebrated her birthday yesterday, Nov. 1! Hope you had a blast and may you be blessed with many more birthdays to come! Much love coming out from all your family and friends!



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy 7th birthday to Henric Jared aka "Jeboj," center! May you have many, many more birthdays to come and hope your wishes come true! We love you my son! Greetings come from Mommy, Daddy, JarOn, Jaren, and the whole family!

Is Your family Eligible For Free School meals?

Has a member of your household recently lost his/her job?
Has your family income been reduced because of the passage of the current government budget?
Are payless paydays affecting your ability to provide a nutritious breakfast or lunch for your children?

If you answer "yes" to any of the above questions, your family may now qualify for free school meals provided by the Public School System's Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) Office. Look at the chart below. If you are paid every two weeks (*for example, a government employee*), compare your paystubs to the "bi-weekly" column. If all of your combined household income is less than that shown in the chart, your family may be eligible for free school meals.

Household Size	Annual income	Monthly income	2x per Month income	Bi-weekly income	Weekly income
1	\$14,079	\$1,174	\$587	\$542	\$271
2	18,941	1,579	790	729	365
3	23,803	1,984	992	916	458
4	28,665	2,389	1,195	1,103	552
5	33,527	2,794	1,397	1,290	645
6	38,389	3,200	1,600	1,477	739
7	43,251	3,605	1,803	1,664	832
8	48,113	4,010	2,005	1,851	926
Add'l member, Add.....	+ 4,682	+406	+203	+187	+94

Applying is simple. Visit your children's school or the PSS FNS office in the Retirement Building on Capital Hill and pick up an application. Attach your two most recent check stubs and submit the application. If eligible, your children can begin receiving free school meals less than one week after the application is received.

For more information, please contact the PSS FNS Saipan office at 237-2053, -3060, -3033, -3050.

Business

Chavez orders takeover of Venezuelan steel maker

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—President Hugo Chavez ordered the expropriation of Venezuela's largest privately owned steel producer Sunday, the latest in a series of takeovers that has raised concerns among business leaders.

The president said the seizure of Siderurgica del Turbio SA, or Sidetur, is part of his strategy to

transform Venezuela into a socialist state.

"I'm announcing the expropriation of Sidetur," Chavez said during his weekly television and radio program, "Hello, President."

He ordered soldiers to guard the company's seven plants and urged employees to cooperate

with officials rather than protest the takeover.

Sidetur, a subsidiary of Siderurgica de Venezuela SA, or Sivena, produces 40 percent of the rebar used for construction in the country.

Founded in 1948, it produces 835,000 metric tons of steel a year, including beams, angles

and flats that are sold domestically and exported to nations in Latin America, Africa, Asia and Europe.

Telephone calls to Sidetur's offices in Caracas went unanswered late Sunday.

Chavez has expropriated dozens of privately owned companies since he took office in 1999.

Last week, he ordered the takeover of the Venezuelan subsidiary of U.S.-based glass container manufacturer Owens-Illinois Inc. Earlier this month, he announced plans to expropriate Agroislena CA, a leading farm

supply business.

Business leaders say the seizures are scaring off investors and could keep Venezuela from emerging from a lingering recession that began last year.

"The only investment here is for maintenance: Businessmen investing so their businesses stay afloat, not for expansion," said Jose Guerra, a former Central Bank official who now teaches economics at the Central University of Venezuela in Caracas.

Venezuela's gross domestic product shrank 3.5 percent in the

first half of this year after contracting 3.3 percent for all of 2009.

Chavez has said the government will pay fair compensation for the businesses.

Earlier in the day before Chavez's announcement, opposition politician Julio Borges said expropriations are hurting jobs and accused Chavez of steering Venezuela toward Cuba-style communism.

"We urge the government to stop this expropriation policy," Borges said.

"The government is now attacking the large businesses because later it will be easier for him to attack the small- and medium-size businesses."



Chavez

Deal or punt decision on Bush tax cuts is Obama's

WASHINGTON (AP)—Will Congress extend the Bush tax cuts into 2011 in the weeks after Tuesday's election or let the automatic increase start cutting into most people's paychecks early next year?

It's really pretty much up to President Barack Obama.

Despite the punishment his fellow Democrats are expected to take from voters, Obama has shown no sign of retreating from his insistence that families and small businesses with incomes above \$250,000 return to higher, Bill Clinton-era tax levels starting Jan. 1.

But Obama also has dodged the question whether he would veto a bill that extends the tax cuts for everyone.

The expiring tax cuts were enacted in 2001. They include lower income tax rates, a \$1,000 per-child tax credit, relief for married couples, and lower taxes on investments and large estates.

Many longtime Congress-watchers think it'll come down to two options: extending the full roster of former President George W. Bush's tax cuts for a year in a lame-duck session that opens Nov. 15, or punting the issue until

next year for Obama and a new, more Republican Congress to figure out.

Republicans are hoping to ride a wave of economic fears and anti-Washington anger to a possible takeover of the House and at least several more seats in the Senate. They're certain to stand firm on their promise to extend the Bush-era tax cuts in their entirety. Democrats were divided on the issue even before the election.

About three dozen mostly moderate House Democrats and a few Senate Democrats already oppose Obama's position on raising rates for the wealthy. So do Gov. Joe Manchin, D-W. Va., and Chris Coons, D-Del., who would immediately join the Senate if elected Tuesday. If the question were actually put to votes in Congress, the GOP might win.

From a purely political perspective, Obama can solidify his standing with the Democratic base by fighting for his position or appeal to the middle by showing an ability to work with Republicans.

"The most likely outcome is a one-year extension of everything," said Democratic lobbyist Steve Elmendorf. "The

second most likely outcome is nothing happens."

"The middle class has to get more than a few Tootsie rolls in their treat bag for Halloween here. We just can't keep this policy of having the wealthiest get the biggest chunk of these tax cuts," said Sen. Amy Klobuchar, D-Minn.

Appearing with her on CBS' "Face the Nation," GOP Rep. Peter King of New York said "it's only the last few weeks we've heard any talk of a compromise at all."

Elmendorf said Obama should cut a deal because letting the tax cuts expire would be a political disaster. "Showing that he can work with Republicans in the postelection atmosphere is going to be important, and this is the first way to do it," he said.

Sen. John Cornyn, D-Texas, appearing Sunday on ABC's "This Week," envisioned a deal that continues all the Bush tax cuts "for the near term, perhaps the next couple of years. Perhaps there's a bipartisan solution there."

Regardless of how the battle turns out this fall, the Bush tax cuts will be in effect for purposes of next year's filing season.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Japan, Vietnam agree on rare earths, nuclear power

HANOI, Vietnam (AP)—Japanese Prime Minister Naoto Kan says Vietnam has chosen Japan as a partner to mine rare earth metals and help build the Communist country's second nuclear power plant. Kan told reporters Sunday that Vietnam selected Japan for both projects during a meeting with his Vietnamese counterpart, Nguyen Tan Dung, in Hanoi. Japan earlier this month announced plans to begin mining in Vietnam for rare earth metals used in high-tech manufacturing, in a bid to reduce its dependence on China.

Apple sues Motorola over smart phone patent

NEW YORK (AP)—Apple is suing Motorola for infringing on patents related to its smart phones. Apple Inc. said in a filing on Friday that Motorola's Droid, Cliq, BackFlip and other

phones violate its patents related to the iPhone's touch screen and user interface. Apple says it wants Motorola Inc. to stop using the patents and is seeking an unspecified amount of damages as well as its attorneys' fees and costs. The lawsuit was filed in a federal district court in Wisconsin on Friday. The suit comes after Motorola sued Apple earlier this month over patent infringement.

Broadcasters keep upper hand in TV disputes

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A recent spate of TV blackouts and the lack of government intervention suggests that broadcasters have the upper hand over TV signal providers when it comes to negotiating fees, at least until Congress decides to act. New York-area cable TV operator Cablevision Systems Corp. tested the limits of government intervention in October, calling early and often

for the Federal Communications Commission to step in and force News Corp.'s Fox to keep providing its broadcast signal while it pressed for arbitration in a fee dispute.

Oil rises to near \$82 as China manufacturing grows

BANGKOK (AP)—Oil prices rose to near \$82 a barrel Monday in Asia as regional stock markets jumped on news that growth in Chinese manufacturing picked up pace in October. Benchmark crude for December delivery was up 42 cents at \$81.85 a barrel at late morning Bangkok time in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract fell 75 cents to settle at \$81.43 on Friday. The pickup in Chinese manufacturing suggests that China's economic recovery remains on track, bolstering expectations that its demand for crude will offset weakness in advanced economies.



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 50514, SAIPAN, MP 96950



INVITATION FOR BIDS

(This ad is paid by NMHC with HUD Funds.)

NMHC IFB 2010-018

Building Maintenance of NMHC's Housing Units in Saipan

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, are hereby giving notice that NMHC is soliciting sealed bids for the Building Maintenance of NMHC's Housing Units in Saipan.

Interested individuals or firms may pick up a copy of the Project Package beginning Wednesday, November 3, 2010, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays.

A Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference will be held at the NMHC Central Office on **Monday, November 15, 2010, at 10:30 a.m.**, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan. Bidders will have the opportunity to tour the housing subdivisions and inspect several housing units owned by NMHC that will be covered under the proposed contract. Attendance at this conference and site visit are considered essential to the bidders' understanding of the project elements and a company that does not have a representative in attendance at the pre-bid conference will be considered as a non-responsive bidder. Inquiries regarding this solicitation must be addressed in writing to the NMHC Corporate Director at P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 no later than 4:30 p.m., Tuesday, November 9, 2010.

Sealed bids must be marked **NMHC-IFB 2010-018**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and three (3) copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950, not later than **10:00 a.m.**, local time **Friday, November 26, 2010**. Bids received after the date and time will not be accepted. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notice of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **10:00 a.m.**, local time, **Friday, November 26, 2010**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and three (3) copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **Friday, November 26, 2010**, and must be received at Procurement and Supply no later than **Monday, December 6, 2010**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan at **8:00 a.m.**, local time, **Tuesday, December 7, 2010**. However, if no notice of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:30 a.m.**, local time on **Friday, November 26, 2010**.

All labor on this project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate of \$5.05 per hour which took effect on October 1, 2010 as established by Federal law including subsequent increases of \$.50 per hour as announced by the U.S. Department of Labor and/or the CNMI Department of Labor, whichever is higher.

NMHC hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that, in any contacts entered into pursuant to this advertisement, small, minority businesses and women's business enterprises will be afforded equal opportunity to submit bids and will not be discriminated against on grounds of race, color, religion, sex, disabilities or national origin.

This project is also subject to Section 3 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1968 which requires the successful bidder to the "maximum extent feasible", take affirmative steps to provide training, contracting and employment opportunities and help ensure that the economic opportunities generated by these HUD funds are provided to local low-income residents in Saipan.

Bidding procedures shall be in compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, however, Article 7, "Local Business Preference", as amended by Public Laws 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, is not available to local bidders in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funding for this project.

The bidder submitting the lowest responsible bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 3-301. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsible bid will be awarded a contract with NMHC.

NMHC reserves the right to reject any and all bids for any reason and to waive any defects in the bids if determined to be in its best interest. All bids received shall become the property of the Commonwealth Government.

/s/ JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO
Corporate Director

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, Procurement & Supply

Nation

Bomb plot just narrowly averted, officials say

WASHINGTON (AP)—The mail bomb plot stretching from Yemen to Chicago may have been aimed at blowing up planes in flight and was only narrowly averted, officials said Sunday, acknowledging that one device almost slipped through Britain and another seized in Dubai was unwittingly flown on two passenger jets.

Senior U.S. officials met to develop a U.S. response to the al-Qaida faction linked to the powerful explosives addressed to synagogues in Chicago.

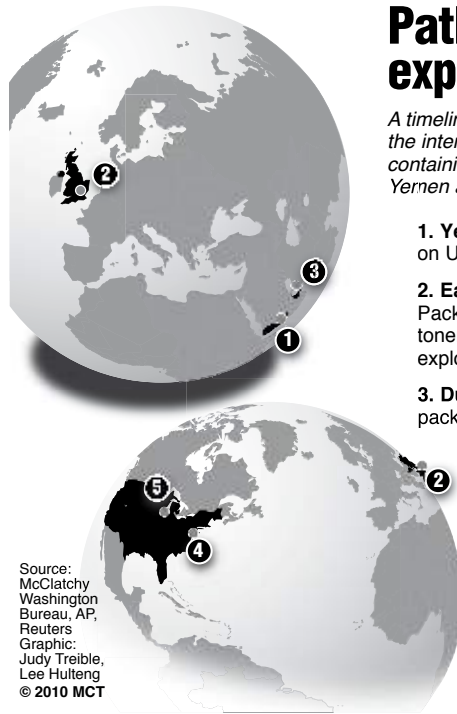
Investigators were still piecing together the potency and construction of two bombs they believed were designed by the top explosives expert working for al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula, the Yemen-based militant faction thought to be behind the plot. Yemeni authorities hunted suspects linked to the group, but released a female computer engineering student arrested Saturday, saying someone else had posed as her in signing the shipping documents.

But authorities admitted how close the terrorists came to getting their bombs through, and a senior U.S. official said investigators were still trying to figure out if other devices remained at large.

"We're trying to get a better handle on what else may be out there," deputy national security adviser John Brennan told NBC's "Meet the Press" on Sunday. "We're trying to understand better what we may be facing." He told CNN's "State of the Union" that "it would be very imprudent ... to presume that there are no others (packages) out there."

Brennan said authorities are "looking at the potential that they would have been detonated en route to those synagogues aboard the aircraft as well as at the destinations. But at this point we, I think, would agree with the British that it looks as though they were designed to be detonated in flight." He made those remarks on CBS' "Face the Nation."

British Prime Minister David Cameron had raised the possi-



Source: McClatchy Washington Bureau, AP, Reuters
Graphic: Judy Treible, Lee Hulteng
© 2010 MCT

Path of seized explosives

A timeline of events surrounding the interception of two packages containing explosives sent from Yemen and bound for Chicago:

- 1. Yemen** Packages loaded on UPS, FedEx cargo planes
- 2. East Midlands, UK** Package containing copier toner cartridge rigged with explosives found on UPS jet
- 3. Dubai** Second suspicious package found on FedEx jet
- 4. U.S.** UPS planes carrying cargo from Yemen searched at Newark, Philadelphia airports
- 5. Chicago** U.S. officials say packages addressed to Jewish organizations in area

bility the bombs were aimed at blowing up the planes carrying them, but Brennan and other officials had previously concentrated more on the threat to the American synagogues.

One of the explosive devices

author of the women's health amendment, says the clear intent was to include family planning.

But is birth control preventive medicine?

Conflicting answers frame what could be the next clash over moral values and a health law that passed only after a difficult compromise restricting the use of public money for abortions.

For many medical and public health experts, there's no debate.

"There is clear and incontrovertible evidence that family planning saves lives and improves health," said obstetrician-gynecologist Dr. David Grimes, an international family planning expert who teaches medicine at the University of North Carolina. "Contraception rivals immunization in dollars saved for every dollar invested. Spacing out children allows for optimal pregnancies and optimal child rearing. Contraception is a prototype of preventive medicine."

But U.S. Catholic bishops say pregnancy is a healthy condition, not an illness. In comments filed with the Department of Health and Human Services, the bishops say they oppose any requirement to cover contraceptives or sterilization as preventive care.

"We don't consider it to be health care, but a lifestyle choice," said John Haas, president of the National Catholic Bioethics Center, a Philadelphia think tank whose work reflects church teachings. "We think there are other ways to avoid having children than by ingesting chemicals paid for by health insurance."

Obama makes last campaign stop in pivotal Ohio

CLEVELAND (AP)—President Barack Obama made Ohio his final campaign stop Sunday in the tumultuous midterm elections, trying to help hard-pressed Democrats in a state that could prove crucial to his fortunes in two years.

Republicans said it was too little and too late, confident their party will pick up more than 40 House seats and regain the majority they lost four years ago. Republican control of the Senate seems less likely, although they expect to gain several seats there, as well as numerous governors' seats.

Obama, bracing for perhaps

one of the biggest midterm setbacks in recent times, made a four-state weekend sprint to help embattled Democrats as best he can. He said their chances are good if their supporters turn out heavily on Tuesday.

But Sarah Palin, the 2008 GOP vice presidential nominee, predicted voters will send a sobering message: "You blew it, President Obama. We gave you the two years to fulfill your promise of making sure that our economy starts roaring back to life again."

As he did in three other states this weekend, the president implored voters in Ohio to recall

After masterminding the attempt last December to blow up a U.S.-bound airliner with explosives hidden in a passenger's underwear, the Yemen terror affiliate appears to have nearly pulled off its own audacious plot capitalizing on weak points in the world's aviation security and cargo systems.

The U.S. has tried in the past to kill or capture the group's leaders, but the American response to the thwarted attacks was still being developed Sunday. Brennan headed a meeting of national security and intelligence officials at the White House to determine the U.S. response in concert with a Yemeni government that has been reluctant to give free rein to the American military in taking on the militants.



Obama

how poorly the Republicans handled the economy when they were in control, and to give Democrats more time.

"It's up to you to remember that this election is a choice between the policies that got us into this mess and the policies that are leading us out of this mess," he told about 8,000 people at Cleveland State University.

Obama said Republicans would return to policies that cut taxes for billionaires, cut regulations for special interests and "cut loose" middle-class families to fend for themselves.

But Republicans see Tuesday's vote shaping up as a stern public rejection of two more years of Democratic control on Capitol Hill.

Contraception could be free under health care law

WASHINGTON (AP)—Fifty years after the pill, another birth control revolution may be on the horizon: free contraception for women in the U.S., thanks to the new health care law.

That could start a shift toward more reliable—and expensive—forms of birth control that are gaining acceptance in other developed countries.

But first, look for a fight over social mores.

A panel of experts advising the government meets in November to begin considering what kind of preventive care for women should be covered at no cost to the patient, as required under President Barack Obama's overhaul.

Sen. Barbara Mikulski, D-Md.,



AP

In this May 28, 1999 file photo, a new birth control pill container designed to look like a woman's makeup compact for Ortho-McNeil Pharmaceutical Inc., of Raritan, N.J., is displayed at the manufacturer's assembly line.

ACROSS THE NATION

Trial begins 8 years after Smart kidnapping

SALT LAKE CITY (AP)—Eight years after he's accused of slicing through a kitchen window screen with a knife and whisking away a young girl in the middle of the night, the man charged in the abduction of Elizabeth Smart is headed to trial in federal court. Jury selection in the trial of Brian David Mitchell is scheduled to begin Monday in Salt Lake City's U.S. District Court. After years of delays driven by questions about Mitchell's mental health and a jump from state to federal court, the trial of the one-time itinerant street preacher should finally bring Smart's saga to a close. Hers is a tale of loss, a family's fears and an improbable recovery that has long riveted the nation. "It's certainly been a long time coming," Ed Smart, Elizabeth's father said Thursday. "We're very confident in the prosecution."

Shooting at Oakland Halloween party injures 9

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—A gunman suspected of taking part in a Halloween party shooting that injured nine people in downtown Oakland is being sought by police, authorities said Sunday. Officers who responded early Sunday saw several hundred people fleeing Sweet's Ballroom,

where a party called the first annual Fright Fest was being held, Oakland police spokeswoman Holly Joshi said. People dove for cover and began running out of the building when the shots were fired, a ballroom employee told the Oakland Tribune. The party, which cost \$15 to attend and featured DJs and live music, was advertised online as the "biggest Halloween college party in the Bay Area." Students at local colleges and universities were encouraged to attend.

Calif. woman driving go kart dies in collision

STANTON, Calif. (AP)—A 67-year-old Southern California woman was killed after she lost control of a go kart-like vehicle and veered into traffic on a busy street. Orange County Sheriff's Lt. Lloyd Downing said Sunday that Hwa Oh of Fullerton was with family members in the parking lot of a swap meet Saturday evening when she decided to take a turn on the vehicle. But Oh lost control of the cart and ran through some bushes, across a sidewalk and onto a street in Stanton, where she was struck by a car. She was declared dead at a hospital. Oh's daughter, Cindy Morrow, told The Orange County Register that her mother was a good driver, but speculated that she became nervous and couldn't control the vehicle. No citations were issued.

Asia

Indon volcano erupts anew

MOUNT MERAPI, Indonesia (AP)—Indonesia's deadly volcano unleashed another powerful eruption Monday, spewing searing clouds of gas and ash thousands of feet into the air to the sound of a booming explosion. There were no immediate reports of new casualties.

On the other side of seismically charged country, a break in weather was helping rescuers get aid to victims of a tsunami that slammed into several remote islands, sweeping entire villages to sea.

The twin disasters, which occurred almost simultaneously one week ago, have together killed nearly 500 people.

Mount Merapi, among 20 mountains now rumbling and spitting out ash in Indonesia, is one of the world's most active.

The latest blast sent massive clouds of ash spilling nearly two miles (six kilometers) down the northeastern slopes, said Subrandrio, who is monitoring the mountain that has already killed 38 people.

With the increase in activity in recent days, villagers had already been evacuated.

Residents flee on their motorcycles as Mount Merapi releases pyroclastic flow as seen from Klaten, Central Java, Indonesia, Sunday, Oct. 31, 2010.

AP



Surono, chief of the Center for Volcanology and Geological Hazard Mitigation, warned that heavy rain over the week-end increased the danger of another larger eruption because water falling into the fiery crater can create sudden vapor pressure in the lava dome.

More than 800 miles (1,300

kilometers) to the west, boats and helicopters were ferrying aid to the most distant corners of the Mentawai Islands, where some coastal communities were pounded by waves up to 18 feet (six meters) high last Monday. The tsunami destroyed hundreds of homes, schools, churches and mosques.

Clinton urges rights progress in Cambodia

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP)—U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton on Monday urged Cambodia to confront its tortured past by ensuring the Khmer Rouge are brought to justice for crimes against humanity in the 1970s and improve its current human rights record.

In the capital of Phnom Penh, she visited a former school that served as the main Khmer Rouge prison and torture center and appealed for the Cambodian people and government to overcome a legacy of impunity

for abuses. The government has refused to allow a U.N.-backed court trying top Khmer Rouge leaders to prosecute lower-ranking members.

Clinton toured the infamous S-21 prison where as many as 16,000 people were tortured before being executed for alleged counterrevolutionary behavior. The ultra-leftist Khmer Rouge regime is blamed for the deaths of some 1.7 million people from starvation, disease,

overwork and execution during its 1975-79 reign.

"It's a very disturbing experience and the pictures—both the pictures of the young Cambodians who were killed and the young Cambodians who were doing the killing—were so painful," she told students after the tour. "But I also came away very impressed because a country that is able to confront its past is a country that can overcome it."



Clinton

ASIAN BRIEFS

Philippines: Flawed Myanmar vote will damage ASEAN

HANOI, Vietnam (AP)—The Philippines says the Association of Southeast Asian Nations will be undermined if next month's elections in military-ruled Myanmar are a sham. ASEAN leaders have repeatedly pressed member state Myanmar to ensure the Nov. 7 vote is free and fair and have urged the regime to release of pro-democracy icon Aung San Suu Kyi. It will be the first election in 20 years in Myanmar. The regime says it is a key step toward democracy, but critics say the polls are designed to cement military control. Suu Kyi's party, which won the 1990 vote but was blocked from power, is boycotting. Philippine Foreign Secretary Alberto Romulo said Saturday that flawed elections "will cost ASEAN not only goodwill but its own position. They are also putting at risk ASEAN itself."

US missile attack kills 5 people in NW Pakistan

PARACHINAR, Pakistan (AP)—A U.S. drone attack killed five people in northwest

Pakistan on Monday, local intelligence officials said, the latest in a barrage of such strikes against al-Qaida and Taliban militants who have long sought sanctuary in the region. The missile or missiles struck a house in North Waziristan, the area that has seen the overwhelming majority of attacks over the last two months, said the officials, who did not give their names because the agency they work for does not allow its operatives to be identified. The identities of those killed was not immediately known.

China goes door-to-door in world's biggest census

BEIJING (AP)—China kicked off its once-a-decade census Monday, a whirlwind 10-day head count that will see 6 million census takers go door-to-door to document the massive demographic changes taking place in the world's most populous country. The 2000 tally put China's official population at 1.295 billion people. In the 10 years since, there has been an extensive shift in the population base as millions of migrant workers have poured into urban areas from the countryside.

World

Ex-guerrilla is Brazil's 1st female prexy

SAO PAULO (AP)—A former Marxist guerrilla who was tortured and imprisoned during Brazil's long dictatorship was elected Sunday as president of Latin America's biggest nation, a country in the midst of an economic and political rise.

A statement from the Supreme Electoral Court, which oversees elections, said governing party candidate Dilma Rousseff won the election. When she takes office Jan. 1, she will be Brazil's first female leader.

With 99 percent of the ballots counted, Rousseff had 55.6 percent compared to 44.4 percent for her centrist rival, Jose Serra, the electoral court said.

"I'm very happy. I want to thank all Brazilians for this moment and I promise to honor the trust they have shown me," Rousseff told reporters who swarmed a car carrying her in Brasilia, her first public words as president-elect.

Rousseff, the hand-chosen candidate of wildly popular President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, won by cementing her image to Silva's, whose policies she promised to continue.

She will lead a nation on the rise, a country that will host the 2014 World Cup and that is expected to be the globe's fifth-largest economy by the time it hosts the 2016 Summer Olympics. It has also recently discovered huge oil reserves off its coast.

Rousseff was already speaking like a president-elect before the result was announced.

"Starting tomorrow we begin a new stage of democracy," Rousseff, 62, said in the southern city of Porto Alegre, where she cast her vote. "I will rule for everyone, speak with all Brazilians, without exception."

Silva used his 80 percent approval ratings to campaign incessantly for Rousseff, his former chief of staff and political protege. She never has held elected office and lacks the charisma that transformed Silva from a one-time shoeshine boy into one of the globe's most popular leaders.

Silva was barred by the con-

stitution from running for a third consecutive four-year term. He has batted down chatter in Brazil's press that he is setting himself up for a new run at the presidency in 2014, which would be legal.

Despite Rousseff's win, many voters don't want "Lula," as he is popularly known, to go away.

"If Lula ran for president 10 times, I would vote for him 10 times," said Marisa Santos, a

43-year-old selling her homemade jewelry on a Sao Paulo street. "I'm voting for Dilma, of course, but the truth is it will still be Lula who will lead us."

Within 20 minutes of Rousseff's victory being announced, her supporters began streaming onto a main avenue in Sao Paulo, where eight years ago a huge gathering celebrated Silva's win, the first time the Workers Party took the presidency. Police blocked off the road and workers were already constructing a stage for a party expected to last the entire night.



Rousseff

Study: Alcohol more lethal than heroin, cocaine

LONDON (AP)—Alcohol is more dangerous than illegal drugs like heroin and crack cocaine, according to a new study.

British experts evaluated substances including alcohol, cocaine, heroin, ecstasy and marijuana, ranking them based on how destructive they are to the individual who takes them and to society as a whole.

Researchers analyzed how addictive a drug is and how it harms the human body, in addition to other criteria like environmental damage caused by the drug, its role in breaking up families and

ONLINE:
<http://www.lancet.com>

its economic costs, such as health care, social services, and prison.

Heroin, crack cocaine and methamphetamine, or crystal meth, were the most lethal to individuals. When considering their wider social effects, alcohol, heroin and crack cocaine were the deadliest. But overall, alcohol outranked all other substances, followed by heroin and crack cocaine. Marijuana, ecstasy and LSD scored far lower.

The study was paid for by

Britain's Centre for Crime and Justice Studies and was published online Monday in the medical journal, Lancet.

Experts said alcohol scored so high because it is so widely used and has devastating consequences not only for drinkers but for those around them.

"Just think about what happens (with alcohol) at every football game," said Wim van den Brink, a professor of psychiatry and addiction at the University of Amsterdam. He was not linked to the study and co-authored a commentary in the Lancet.

WORLD BRIEFS

Police block sex abuse survivors near Vatican

ROME (AP)—Italian paramilitary police blocked a boulevard leading to the Vatican to prevent a march Sunday by some 100 survivors of clergy sex abuse from reaching St. Peter's Square, but later allowed two protesters to leave letters from the abused at the Holy See's doorstep. The two also left a dozen stones near the obelisk in St. Peter's square to mark a symbolic path so other survivors might know they have company in their suffering. The candlelit protest was the first significant demonstration in the shadow of the Vatican by people who had been raped and molested by priests as children, and organizers said it would be repeated until the Holy See takes decisive action to ensure children are safe.

Tomas now tropical storm, expected to strengthen

KINGSTOWN, St. Vincent (AP)—Hurricane Tomas weakened to a tropical storm Sunday night after tearing off roofs and downing power lines in the eastern Caribbean. Forecasters said it could regain force and veer toward earthquake-stunned Haiti, where some 1.3 million people living under tarps and in tents are vulnerable to heavy rains and wind. With maximum sustained

winds of 65 mph (100 kph), Tomas slipped under the threshold for a hurricane. The U.S. National Hurricane Center in Miami predicted more weakening during the next 24 hours before it begins to strengthen again around midweek. Daniel Brown, a center forecaster, said Tomas is "likely to strengthen when it's over the central Caribbean," and Haiti could be hit by rains from outer bands in another couple of days.

8-year sentence for Gitmo's former 'child soldier'

GUANTANAMO BAY NAVAL BASE, Cuba (AP)—The long-running case of a onetime teenage al-Qaida fighter is over, with a U.S. military judge sentencing Omar Khadr to eight more years in custody for war crimes. The sentence was handed down Sunday under a plea bargain in which the young Canadian admitted to five war crimes charges, including killing a U.S. soldier in Afghanistan. Under the deal, the judge was limited to the eight-year sentence and had to ignore the recommendation of a military jury that Khadr serve 40 years. The case attracted intense scrutiny and criticism because Khadr was 15 when he was captured after suffering serious wounds during a four-hour battle at an al-Qaida compound in Afghanistan in 2002.

Overdrive

Pontiac, maker of muscle cars, ends after 84 years

DETROIT (AP)—Pontiac, whose muscle cars drag-raced down boulevards, parked at drive-ins and roared across movie screens, went out of business on Sunday.

The 84-year-old brand, moribund since General Motors decided to kill it last year as it collapsed into bankruptcy, had been in decline for years. It was undone by a combination of poor corporate strategy and changing driver tastes. On Oct. 31, GM's agreements with Pontiac dealers expire.

Even before GM's bankruptcy, Pontiac's sales had fallen from their peak of nearly one million in 1968, when the brand's speedier models were prized for their powerful engines and scowling grills.

At Pontiac's pinnacle, models like the GTO, Trans Am and Catalina 2+2 were packed with horsepower and sported colors like "Tiger Gold." Burt Reynolds and Sally Field fled the law in a Firebird Trans Am which raced through the 1970s hit movie "Smokey and the Bandit."

By the late 1980s, though, Pontiacs were taking off their muscle shirts, putting on suits and trying to act like other cars. The brand had lost its edge.

Bill Hoglund, a retired GM executive who led Pontiac during its "We Build Excitement" ad campaigns in the 1980s, blames the brand's demise on a reorganization under CEO Roger Smith in 1984. That overhaul cut costs by combining Pontiac's manufacturing, engineering and design operations with those of other GM brands.

"There was no passion for the product," says Hoglund. "The product had to fit what was going on in the corporate system."

Although the moves were necessary to fend off competition from Japanese automakers with lower costs, they yielded Pontiacs that looked and drove



In this Sunday, July 19, 2009 photograph, the front of a restored 1967 Pontiac GTO is seen in Newtown, Pa. Pontiac, whose GTO and Firebird muscle cars defined fast rides, drive-ins and cruising for a generation of teenage boys, went out of business, Sunday, Oct. 31, 2010.

like other GM cars.

By 2008, the last full year before GM announced Pontiac's shutdown, sales were 267,000, less than a third of those sold in 1968.

Formed in 1926, Pontiac made cars for the working class until a sales slump in the 1950s nearly killed it. GM revived the brand by connecting it to auto racing. From then on, each Pontiac sales boom was driven by speed; each bust generally featured outdated or boring rides.

The brand's most storied muscle car, the GTO, came about when some GM engineers took a small car called the Tempest and put a powerful V8 engine under the hood. The letters stood for "Gran Turismo Omologato," Italian for "ready to race."

Sparked by the GTO, the Pontiac brand thrived, making up 17 percent of the 5.4 million cars and trucks GM sold in the U.S. in 1968. The GTO even spawned its own 1960s hit song.

"C'mon and turn it on, wind it up,

blow it out GTO," was the chorus of the tune by Ronny and the Daytonas.

Pontiac's decline stemmed from a lack of a consistent strategy or leadership. Executives rotated through every few years on their way up the corporate ladder, each with a different vision. Some even tried to make Pontiac a luxury brand.

One strategy that eventually hurt the brand was rebadging: putting the guts of less powerful GM cars inside the skins of Pontiacs.

Big economic shifts also damaged the brand. Two gas spikes in the 1970s steered Americans toward smaller cars with more fuel-efficient engines, areas dominated by Japanese automakers in the U.S.

About two dozen unsold Pontiacs now linger at dealerships around the country, including a maroon G5 coupe that sits awkwardly in a no-man's land between used cars and new models next to the showroom at Orr GM Superstore near Little Rock, Ark. The car, which is really just a poky Chevrolet Cobalt gussied up with a spoiler, fancy wheels and the red arrowhead Pontiac logo, has been on the lot for more than 700 days. Sales Manager Alex Valencia has knocked almost \$7,000 off the sticker price, down to \$16,585.

Despite spells of success during the last 30 years, Pontiac never returned to its supercharged sales of the 1960s.

A low point was the late 1990s, when Pontiac came up with Aztek, an attempt to merge campers with SUVs and win over young, outdoorsy Americans. The vehicle, which seemed more like a cross between a minivan and armored car, flopped.

In the mid-2000s, GM tried to rekindle the brand with powerful sedans, such as the G8, which harkened back to the GTO. But dealers wanted a full model lineup, and GM gave them re-named Chevrolets, diluting Pontiac's performance image, says Bob Lutz, GM's former product guru who headed up the effort to reinvigorate Pontiac.

This year, Pontiac's sales are less than 1 percent of the 2.2 million cars and trucks GM is expected to sell. GM built the last Pontiac in May.

Even after their Pontiac agreements expire, GM dealers will continue to service the cars and honor their warranties. But after this weekend, any new Pontiacs that remain on dealer lots will be considered used cars by GM.

Anthony "Tony" Agelli, owner of a Pontiac-GMC-Buick dealer in Gurnee, Ill., near Chicago, still has a gleaming orange 2009 Solstice roadster that's the first car to greet customers in his showroom. Despite its prime perch, the \$32,000 car hasn't sold.

Agelli gets emotional when speaking of Pontiac's end.

"I miss it already," he says.

UNDER THE HOOD

Bad filter could sap engine power at high speed

By **BRAD BERGHOLDT**
MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

QUESTION: Can you please help me figure out what's happening with my pickup? It starts and runs fine but has begun to lose power when I'm speeding up or climbing a hill. It's like the engine says, "That's as fast as I'm going to go." It doesn't sputter or shake; it just won't go any faster. I'd appreciate it if you could tell me some things to check.—Sonny Farber

ANSWER: Good job explaining the symptoms. It sounds like your pickup can't move enough fuel or air through the engine to deliver full power. You didn't mention the check engine or service engine soon light illuminating, so I'll assume the truck is

a pre-1996 model with limited or no onboard diagnostics.

This sounds like a classic case of a restricted fuel filter. A restricted filter may flow enough fuel for adequate performance under low-demand situations, but it starves the engine when greater fuel consumption is required. The techie way to check this is to install a fuel pressure gauge at or near the engine and tape the gauge head to the windshield—the long hose is carefully routed to avoid guillotining it when the hood is closed. Then observe fuel pressure under a variety of driving conditions.

Should the pressure fall during high load driving situations, the cause could be either a clogged filter, weak fuel pump or restricted sock, which is a pre-pump strainer. In your case, I'd initially

bypass the test and renew the filter. If this fixes the problem, fine. If it doesn't, it was an inexpensive maintenance item that was likely due for changing.

Before heading to the auto parts store or breaking out the wrenches, I'd take the same approach with the air filter. A dirty air filter can behave similarly to a restricted fuel filter, being more noticeable at high speed. If it's obviously dirty, replace it. If it's questionable, try taking the truck for a road test with it temporarily removed and check for a change in symptoms. Also check the air filter housing and cold air duct for rodent nests or other debris.

If renewing one or both filters doesn't do the trick, the remaining possibilities are the fuel pump or sock—see diagnosis above—or a restricted exhaust system. Exhaust flow faults could be

caused by fragmented catalytic converter internals; a collapsed double wall exhaust pipe, which you can't see by looking at it from the outside; or a mischievous neighbor kid jamming a potato up the tailpipe.

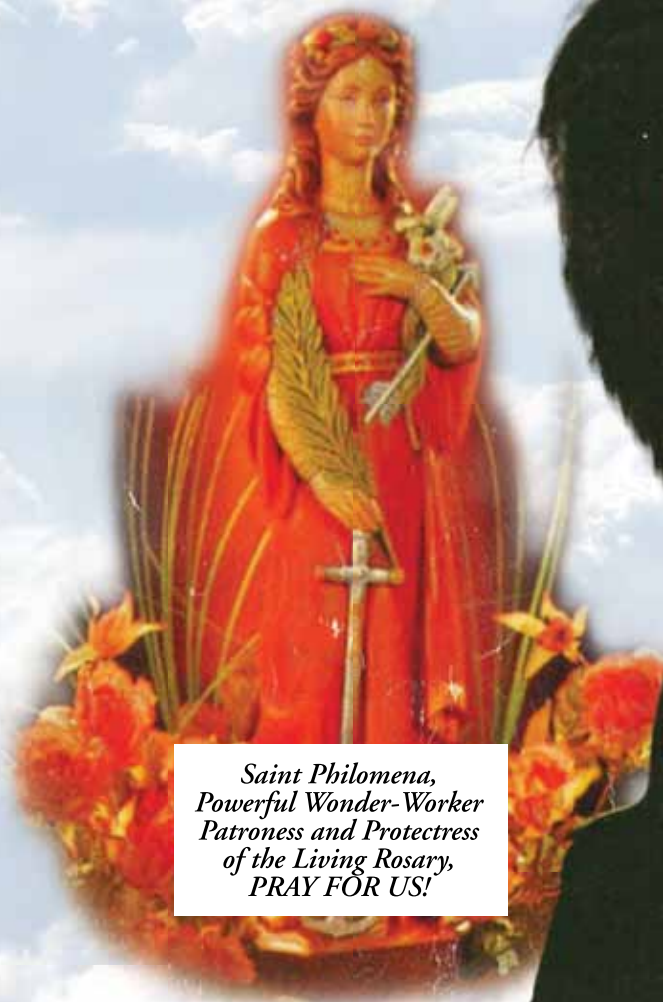
After inspecting the tailpipe tip, further testing involves connecting a simple pressure gauge of approximately 0-15psi to the exhaust via a temporarily removed oxygen sensor. A fitting/tool is threaded into the available hole. Should exhaust pressure rise above 2psi during a deep throttle snap or sustained high-load driving, a restriction is indicated. You can also check manifold vacuum, which is easier but less conclusive. At 2,000 rpm in park or neutral, vacuum should be the same or higher than when at idle—lower indicates a problem.

Before going to this trouble, I'd try smacking the catalytic converter a few times with a rubber mallet. If something rattles inside—a deep rattle, not the heat shield—the insides have come apart, and are likely causing a flow restriction. Simply replacing a broken cat is only part of the fix. You need to be sure of and correct the cause of its demise—typically a misfire or air-to-fuel ratio fault—or the replacement will meet the same fate.

I believe one of the above faults is the cause of the power loss. Because the engine starts and runs well at low speeds, it's unlikely you have an engine mechanical fault or a problem with the ignition system or fuel injectors.

Brad Bergholdt is an automotive technology instructor at Evergreen Valley College in San Jose, Calif. Readers may send him e-mail at under-the-hood@earthlink.net; he cannot make personal replies.

MESSAGE OF APPRECIATION



*Saint Philomena,
Powerful Wonder-Worker
Patroness and Protectress
of the Living Rosary,
PRAY FOR US!*



From the Family of the Late

Juana Palacios Santos

My children and I wish at this time to thank all families, relatives and friends for your outpouring love and support bestowed upon us during our most difficult time. Your presence with us during the daily masses of intention for our dearly beloved has been greatly appreciated and will be forever be cherished. Likewise, your sympathy, condolences, prayers, and personal help will forever remind us of your unconditional love and support. May the good Lord continue to bless, guide and protect us today and everyday. Un sen dankulu na si Yu'us ma'ase, thank you very much and maraming salamat po.

Eugene (Gene), Gene Rodney, Julene, John Del Rosario and Garridan

Life & Style

CONDIMENT CULTURE

Flavor boosters add taste of home to everyday meals

By BILL DALEY
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Condiments may seem simple, but, as chef Marcus Samuelsson writes in "New American Table," "they reflect who we are more than any other food."

Not only do condiments offer flavor, they contribute color, texture and aroma to any dish. And they can speak of culture and history. Take ketchup, that all-American dunk. It was created in

Asia, with nary a tomato in sight, at least for a century or two. Here are some of the world's favorite condiments, the ones you'll find on the dining tables of each continent, and how you can use them in your kitchen.

Dijon mustard: Made by mixing powdered mustard or mustard seeds with a liquid, often vinegar, water or wine, and adding herbs, spices or other flavorings as desired. Assertive yet adaptable, French Di-

jon mustard may be stirred into sauces and vinaigrettes, used as a coating for grilled chicken and salmon or served as-is with cold cuts, sausages.

Olive oil: Whether green and peppery or golden and buttery or somewhere in between, olive oil comes in various quality grades. Extra-virgin olive oil, the first pressing from the olives, is considered the best (and is priced accordingly). Drizzle on cooked fish, chicken, mashed potatoes;

use in vinaigrettes, sauces.

Pickapeppa sauce: Called "Jamaican ketchup," this brand-name sauce is made with cane vinegar, tomatoes, onions, sugar, mangoes, raisins, tamarinds, peppers and spices. It is aged one year in oak barrels for a taste described by the makers as "sweet but mellow." Used to give snap to cream cheese, Pickapeppa also can be used to season meats, vegetables, fish, poultry.

Fish sauce: As ubiquitous in Southeast Asian cooking as salt is in the West, fish sauce is stirred into curries and stir-fries, whisked into sauces and dressings or used as a dipping sauce for spring rolls and satay. Made from fermented, salted fish, the sauce is intensely briny and smells pungent. Names vary by country: nam pla in Thailand, nuoc nam in Vietnam, patis in the Philippines, shottsuru in Japan.

Hot red pepper sauce: Made with chilies, salt and vinegar, different Latin hot sauces give heat to all sorts of dishes, from chili stews to tamales. Plus gumbo, stewed greens and chicken wings.

Harissa: From North Africa, a spicy blend of oil, chilies, garlic, cumin, coriander, caraway and other spices. Serve with couscous, soups, stews.

Piri-piri sauce: Piri-piri (or peri-peri) is the word for the small, incendiary bird's eye chilies of Africa. That gives you a clue to the fire in the sauce, popular in southern Africa and Portugal. Use it as a marinade or sauce with chicken, seafood, soups.

Major Grey's Chutney: Salute Major Grey, whoever he was, for though the sun long ago set on the British Empire, this Raj-era condiment remains popular around the world. Made from mangos, onions, raisins, vinegar and brown sugar, it adds a spicy lushness to any plate. Pair with grilled lamb chops, curry dishes, rice casseroles.

Sriracha sauce: A thickish hot chili sauce from Thailand with just enough sugar to curb the fire and deepen the flavor. Use it to zip up everything from stir fries to sushi.

Sources: The Deluxe Food Lover's Companion by Sharon Tyler Herbst and Ron Herbst; Food by Waverley Root; Asian Ingredients by Bruce Cost; Olive Oil by Charles Quest-Ritson; Mastering the Art of Chinese Cooking by Eileen Yin-Fei Lo; Webster's New World Dictionary of Culinary Arts; pickapeppa.com; www.nandos.com.

More condiments for your table

Countless condiments are available in supermarkets, specialty stores and ethnic markets to jazz up everyday meals. So it's easy to experiment with different flavors and textures. Always buy ballpark mustard? Consider something Dijon-style studded with green peppercorns or soothed with honey. Think ketchup a bore? Consider a salsa, flavored vinegar or even a chutney in its stead. Use your imagination.

Here are a few more popular condiments perfect to launch your culinary journey.



Worcestershire sauce

Named for an English county, this condiment is believed to have roots in India. Ingredients include tamarind, garlic, onions, cloves, molasses and anchovies. Dash on steaks or broiled fish, mix into Caesar and other salad dressings, spike oysters on the half shell or Bloody Marys.

Worcestershire sauce, named for an English county, this condiment is believed to have roots in India. Ingredients include tamarind, garlic, onions, cloves, molasses and anchovies.

BILL HOGAN/CHICAGO TRIBUNE/MCT

Soy sauce

Fermented from soybeans, wheat flour, water and salt, soy sauce adds depth and complexity to foods. Soy sauces come in a range of flavors, intensities. Japanese soy sauce tends to be lighter than Chinese versions. Use in marinades for chicken, beef, fish; pour as a dipping sauce for sushi; use as a secret ingredient in meatloaf; jazz up a vegetable stir-fry with a few spoonfuls.

A favorite condiment reflects on who a person is and their culture. Sauce adds depth and complexity to foods. Soy sauces come in a range of flavors, intensities. Japanese soy sauce tends to be lighter than Chinese versions.

BILL HOGAN/CHICAGO TRIBUNE/MCT



Malt vinegar

This brown vinegar made from malted barley is a favorite sprinkle on fish and chips in England (and Rhode Island too). Consider using in place of other vinegars in sauces, salad dressings.

Malt vinegar is a brown vinegar made from malted barley.

BILL HOGAN/CHICAGO TRIBUNE/MCT



Sambal

A mix of chilies, brown sugar and salt in its most basic form, sambal is spooned up in Indonesia, Malaysia and southern India to serve with rice and curries. Use as a garnish for noodle dishes, cucumber salads.

A mix of chilies, brown sugar and salt in its most basic form, sambal is spooned up in Indonesia, Malaysia and southern India to serve with rice and curries.

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The Social Network

Friday	4:25	7:25	9:55
Saturday	1:25	4:25	7:25
Sunday	1:25	4:25	7:25
Mon through Thurs	4:25	7:25	

Jesse Eisenberg, Justin Timberlake
 Drama • Rated PG 13

Synopsis

The story behind the massive social networking site Facebook gets the big-screen treatment with this Columbia Pictures production scripted by The West Wing's Aaron Sorkin. The film will focus on Harvard student Mark Zuckerberg's ladder to the top after creating one of the biggest Internet sensations.



I Do

Friday	4:20	7:20	9:30
Saturday	1:20	4:20	7:20
Sunday	1:20	4:20	7:20
Mon through Thurs	4:20	7:20	

Enchong Dee, Erich Gonzales
 Romantic Comedy • Rated NR

Synopsis

It is toppled by Enchong Dee and Erich Gonzales. Members of its cast include Pokwang, Dennis Padilla, Melai Cantiveros, Jason Francisco and Nash Aguas. The movie is inspired by a true story of young couple who were trying to fight for their relationship.



Paranormal Activity 2

Friday	4:30	7:30	10:00
Saturday	1:30	4:30	7:30
Sunday	1:30	4:30	7:30
Mon through Thurs	4:30	7:30	

Katie Featherston, Micah Sloat
 Thriller • Rated R

Synopsis

Spooky hauntings are once again the main course in this Paramount Pictures follow-up to Oren Peli's wildly successful supernatural thriller, Paranormal Activity. Kip Williams directs from a script by Michael Perry.



Jackass 3

Friday	4:00	7:00	9:40
Saturday	1:00	4:00	7:00
Sunday	1:00	4:00	7:00
Mon through Thurs	4:00	7:00	

Johnny Knoxville, Bam Margera
 Comedy • Rated R



Red

Friday	4:15	7:15	9:50
Saturday	1:15	4:15	7:15
Sunday	1:15	4:15	7:15
Mon through Thurs	4:15	7:15	

Bruce Willis, Morgan Freeman
 Thriller, Action • Rated PG 13



Easy A

Friday	4:10	7:10	9:45
Saturday	1:10	4:10	7:10
Sunday	1:10	4:10	7:10
Mon through Thurs	4:10	7:10	

Emma Stone, Penn Badgley
 Comedy • Rated PG 13



Nanny McPhee Returns

Friday	4:05	7:05	9:35
Saturday	1:05	4:05	7:05
Sunday	1:05	4:05	7:05
Mon through Thurs	4:05	7:05	

Emma Thomson, Maggie Gyllenhaal
 Comedy • Rated PG

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'Saw 3D' takes top box-office slice with \$24.2M

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Psychokiller Jigsaw has come back to life at the box office.

Lionsgate's "Saw 3D," billed as the final installment in the series about Jigsaw's legacy of bloody terror, debuted as the Halloween weekend's No. 1 movie with \$24.2 million, according to studio estimates Sunday.

That was \$10 million more than the debut of last year's "Saw VI," the first dud in the annual horror franchise.

"Last year, a lot of people said, 'OK, that's it. Put a fork in it, it's done,'" said David Spitz, head of distribution for Lionsgate. "The following week, we were all disappointed and thought, what can we do to reinvigorate the franchise? So we shot the movie in 3-D and said this is the final chapter."

It paid off, though "Saw 3D" still brought a modest return compared to earlier chapters in the "Saw" series, whose second, third, fourth and fifth movies all topped \$30 million over opening weekend.

"Saw 3D" also had a soft debut compared to the previous weekend's No. 1 movie, Paramount's "Paranormal Activity 2," a newer fright franchise that opened with \$40.7 million. "Paranormal Activity 2" slipped to No. 2 this weekend, raising its total to \$65.7 million.

"Seven years into it, obviously, that's a long time for one franchise to hold up year after year," said Paul Dergarabedian, box-office analyst for Hollywood.com. "Other types of horror movies have come into vogue. 'Saw' is part of that whole torture-porn genre, which has gone from great success to lesser success. But they've had a good run. There's nothing to complain about here."

"Saw 3D" also had the benefit of premium prices for 3-D screenings, which cost a few dollars more than tickets for 2-D movies. According to Lionsgate,

3-D projection accounted for roughly 77 percent of "Saw 3D" screenings but 92 percent of the movie's revenues.

Summit Entertainment's action comedy "Red" continued to hold up well, finishing at No. 3 with \$10.8 million and lifting its total to \$58.9 million.

Another franchise playing in 3-D for the first time, Paramount's "Jackass 3D," crossed the \$100 million mark, coming in at No. 4 with \$8.4 million. The stunt and prank comedy raised its haul to \$101.6 million.

In narrower release, Fox Searchlight's legal drama "Conviction" broke into the top-10 after two weeks in a handful of theaters. Starring Hilary Swank in the real-life story of a woman who put herself through law school to

free her brother on a murder rap, "Conviction" was No. 10 with \$1.8 million, playing in 565 theaters and averaging a modest \$3,230 a cinema.

That compared to an \$8,618 average in 2,808 theaters for "Saw 3D."

Also in narrower release, Music Box Films had solid results for "The Girl Who Kicked the Hornet's Nest," which follows "The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo" and "The Girl Who Played With Fire" to finish the trilogy based on late author Stieg Larsson's best-selling thrillers.

"Hornet's Nest" took in \$735,000 in 121 theaters, averaging \$6,074 a cinema. The Swedish-language film has Larsson's troubled savant Lisbeth Salander (Noomi Rapace) targeted by ruthless conspirators.

Director David Fincher is shooting Sony Pictures' English-language remake of "The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo," starring Rooney Mara and Daniel Craig. The movie is due in theaters in December 2011.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Hollywood.com. Final figures will be released Monday.

1. "Saw 3D," \$24.2 million.
2. "Paranormal Activity 2," \$16.5 million.
3. "Red," \$10.8 million.
4. "Jackass 3D," \$8.4 million.
5. "Hereafter," \$6.3 million.
6. "Secretariat," \$5.1 million.
7. "The Social Network," \$4.7 million.
8. "Life as We Know It," \$4 million.
9. "The Town," \$2 million.
10. "Conviction," \$1.8 million.

World's fastest rollercoasters Need for speed

Abu Dhabi's new Ferrari World indoor theme park hosts the world's fastest rollercoaster, the *Formula Rossa*. Simulating the feeling of driving a Formula One race car, the new rollercoaster accelerates from 0 to 60 mph (97 kph) in a mind-boggling two seconds.

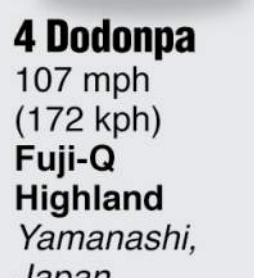
1 Formula Rossa
149 mph (240 kph)
Ferrari World
Abu Dhabi, UAE

2 Kingda Ka
128 mph (206 kph)
Six Flags Great
Adventure
Jackson, N.J.

3 Top Thrill Dragster
120 mph
(193 kph)
Cedar Point
Sandusky, Ohio

5 Superman The Escape
100 mph
(161 kph)
Six Flags Magic
Mountain
Valencia, Calif.

© 2010 MCT
Source: BBC



4 Dodonpa
107 mph
(172 kph)
Fuji-Q
Highland
Yamanashi,
Japan

Letters of recommendation aren't guaranteed to impress

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: My husband, "Lance," is making a career change and has been offered a great opportunity. He is very excited about it. Because his experience in this new field is minimal, Lance asked for letters of recommendation from some professionals who are familiar with his work. He was hoping the letters would provide insight into his abilities that his resume lacks at this early stage.

The problem? All three of the letters he has received contain glaring mistakes. They are all from college professors and on letterhead stationery. While they do offer glowing recommendations, one letter omitted an important word in a sentence, another misused a common word, and the third refers to Lance as "Ms."

I told Lance the letters do not reflect negatively on him because he didn't write them. But he thinks they will give the impression he associates with sub-par representatives of the field. He refuses to ask for new letters because he doesn't want to offend the writers by pointing out the errors. Should Lance use these letters?

STUMPED IN TALLAHASSEE

DEAR STUMPED: What your letter illustrates is how many intelligent, professional people don't bother to proof-read what they have written. Your husband should contact the individuals who provided the references and explain that he spotted a typographical error that should be easy to correct. That's not offensive — it's doing the professors a favor as well as himself because what appears above their signature is a reflection on them and their attention to detail.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I am a mother and a stepmother and have several grandchildren. I have been the "family photographer" at all our events and holiday celebrations. Looking through our 35 years of photographs, you will rarely find me in one. I was always there—but behind the camera.

I'd like to remind your readers that if they're at a gathering and see someone taking family photos, to please offer to use their camera to take a group picture that includes the photographer. It will be one of the few photos in their albums they actually appear in. And they'll be thankful for your thoughtfulness for years to come.

INVISIBLE GRANDMA IN LAWRENCE, MASS.

DEAR INVISIBLE GRANDMA: With the holidays approaching, I'm pleased to print your suggestion. However, at large gatherings these days, there is bound to be someone in the group who has a camera—or a cell phone—with a timer so that everyone present (including the photographer) can appear in the picture.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I recently went to a sporting goods store to buy new golf shoes. I had a \$25-off coupon to be used on any apparel sold in the store.

When I presented the coupon, the store manager informed me that shoes are not considered "apparel" and he would not honor the discount! Aren't shoes considered to be apparel?

BAREFOOT IN MIAMISBURG, OHIO

DEAR BAREFOOT: Yes, they are. And if there were any exclusions, they should have been mentioned on the coupon.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby — Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

'Sopranos' actress Denise Borino-Quinn dies at 46

ROSELAND, New Jersey (AP)—Denise Borino-Quinn, who unexpectedly won a role as a mafia wife on "The Sopranos" after she attended an open casting call, has died. She was 46. The Farmer Funeral Home in Roseland, New Jersey, said Borino-Quinn died Wednesday after a long battle with liver cancer. Her husband, Luke Quinn Jr., had died in March. A Roseland native who lived in Bordentown, Borino-Quinn had no acting experience when she was hired in 2000 to play Ginny Sacrimoni, the mafia wife with a weight problem on the HBO cable TV series. The character quickly became popular with fans and was featured in an October 2002 episode. Borino-Quinn had attended the casting call mostly to support a childhood friend and was shocked when she was hired for the HBO show. When

she wasn't acting, Borino-Quinn worked at a New Brunswick law firm.

Nicolas Cage: education is only way out of poverty

BUCHAREST, Romania (AP)—Oscar-winning actor Nicolas Cage has told guests at a Halloween Ball staged to raise money for impoverished Roma children, that education is the only way out of poverty. The Hollywood actor is in Romania filming the sequel to "Ghost Rider" and was the guest of honor at a Saturday evening ball held in the giant palace of late dictator Nicolae Ceausescu. "Education is the only sure way out of poverty, for individuals, families and nations," he told hundreds of guests at the ball, where an estimated €500,000 (US\$693,000) was raised. Cage said he was inspired to do humanitarian work after playing an illegal arms dealer in 2005 thriller "Lord of War."

George W. Bush to kick off book fair in Miami

MIAMI (AP)—Former President George W. Bush will kick off this year's international book fair in Miami. Bush is scheduled to speak at the 27th annual Miami Book Fair International, which runs from Nov. 14-21. The former president will present his memoir "Decision Points," on Nov. 14 at 4 p.m. Book fair organizers told The Associated Press that tickets to Bush's presentation are \$40. That includes a presigned copy of the book, which comes out Nov. 9. Crown Publishers has said it will have a print run of 1.5 million copies. This year's fair celebrates Mexico as its featured country with cultural programming, including food, theater, music and dance. Other notable authors include Jonathan Franzen, Salman Rushdie, Michael Cunningham and Gay Talese.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



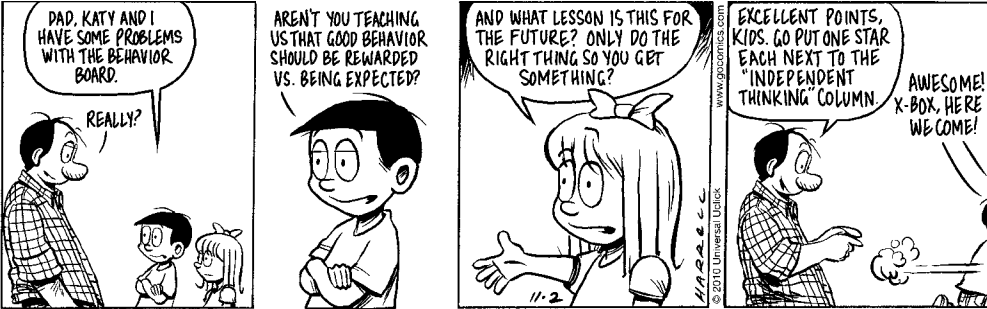
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 36 For fear that 37 Rosters 38 Open out, as a flag 41 Depilation method 42 Protein source 43 Priced separately 48 Mercedes- 49 Bottom line 50 Blue hue 51 Wild revelry 52 Pre-schooler 53 Nervous

DOWN 1 Taste the tea 2 Luau bowlful 3 Dined on chips 4 Chips served with salsa 5 Clayey soil 6 Lord's Prayer start 7 Most likely to make a pun 8 Hit 9 Hammer's target 10 As well 11 Equal

16 Pos-sessed 20 Rue the run 21 Lovers' quarrel 22 Mexican entree 23 Aware of 24 Quick drink 26 Tilted 27 Experts 28 Little one 29 Change for a C-note 31 Mimic 34 Hardly agile 35 Concentrate (on) 37 Fond du —, WI 38 Knob on a shield 39 — do-well 40 Venom spout 41 Power measure 44 Writer Buscaglia 45 Crimson 46 Play-ground game 47 Actor Ron

Solution time: 21 mins.

ERA JASON BRA LID AGORA EEL FOOTBALLS GEL OBI OSSIFY BATTEN NEON OUR DSL RUNTS ORES TAD PERE NAACP MEW RUN SUES BASSET ALUMNA ASP FOR PURCHASES ROE ANGLE ABE OPS LASER PBA

Yesterday's answer 11-2

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Nelly, 36; David Schwimmer, 44; k.d. lang, 49; Stefanie Powers, 68

Happy Birthday: Your will power and stamina will see you through anything you face or want to pursue. Your passion and desire to balance your life in every area will allow you to do just that. This is a year to strive for the best of everything. The knowledge and experience you gain will allow you to help others in due time. Your numbers are 2, 9, 15, 24, 30, 39, 44

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Look for any opportunity to get ahead professionally. Take care of any personal business immediately if it might cause a problem in the future. Someone will mislead you or offer you something that will not develop. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): A chance to better yourself or your position is apparent. Consider an organization or institution over an individual when it comes to joining forces. Pour your heart and soul into your presentation. *****

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't trust your emotions to lead you down the right path. Your priorities are out of whack and the time has come to reorganize your thoughts and plans for the future. Don't let anyone take advantage of your good nature. **

CANCER (June 21-July 22): The more you mingle and interact with people in your industry, the better your chances will be to advance. Add to your skills by picking up a course offering a variety of information,

services or products. Make sure that what you are getting into will be cost efficient. ****

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You will find it difficult to win, especially when it comes to affairs of the heart or anything to do with your personal life, family and home. You will be sold a bill of goods if you rely on someone else's expertise instead of your own common sense. ****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Taking refuge in places outside your home and away from family will be your best outlet for success. Problems at home will only lead to indecisiveness and accomplishing little. Expand your environment and gains can be made. ****

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Letting others know too much about your past will work against you. Be a little mysterious. A memory will surface due to something or someone you encounter. Don't let it throw you off. ***

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Your ability to take care of your responsibilities will show how able you are. You will enhance your reputation personally and professionally, enabling you to connect with individuals equally as strong and passionate about end results. *****

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Don't let your enthusiasm cause you to promise something you cannot deliver. It's serious, hard work that will get you the accolades you are so intent on receiving. Emotions will be hard to control and could lead to an irreversible situation. **

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You've got everything figured out, so stop analyzing and start doing. Your ideas are sound and the approach you take will enable you to capture important attention as well as support. A better financial situation will allow you freedom to expand. *****

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Be honest with yourself and with the people who care about you. Deception, overindulgence and getting involved for the wrong reason will all lead to trouble. Hard work, strength, courage and positive action will bring better results. ***

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Be honest and double check what anyone tells you. Manipulation will be in full force from both your side and someone else's. Your reputation will be at stake, so be true to your word. ***

Birthday Baby: You are helpful, strong-willed and competitive. You leave nothing to chance and have vision, insight and a heart of gold. Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, myspace.com/eugenialast for Eugenia's blog, astroadvice.com for fun

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

			6					5		
	9		7		5	4		6		
3						1	9			
	1		6		3		7			
				9						
	4		5		8		3			
	8	4							2	
6		5	1		7		8			
	7					5				

Difficulty Level ★★

11/02

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Saturday's SUDOKU Answer

4	6	2	1	8	5	7	9	3
9	1	5	4	3	7	6	2	8
7	3	8	2	6	9	1	5	4
1	9	7	3	5	8	4	6	2
5	2	3	9	4	6	8	1	7
8	4	6	7	2	1	9	3	5
2	8	4	6	9	3	5	7	1
3	7	9	5	1	4	2	8	6
6	5	1	8	7	2	3	4	9

Difficulty Level ★

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

U.S.A. VOTES TODAY

Solution: 9 letters

P U E N I L U P O P X O V R C
L O C U I N D E P E N D E N T
E E L O S H Y E N R O T T A S
B E V L N S C O T R U S T C L
I C A E S S I D S R A C K I O
S I L F R N E G N X G I B L G
C T I T I M N R S P L E H B A
I Y D P O I S T V T R M C U N
T T O C K S A A N A R R N P S
E R R R E T E L L U T O U E E
K A A C E G N A H C O I P R L
T P C S S S E R G N O C V E C
M A Y O R S C R U T I N G E R
S E N A T E N W O T H G I R I
S T L U S E R R E T U P M O C

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Yesterday's Answer: Clientele
Treasury 7 Send check or money order for \$10.95 each plus \$3.25 postage and handling each (\$14.20 total each, U.S. funds only) for the first volume, \$1.50 pph for each additional volume, to Universal Uclick, Attn: Wonderword, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, Mo. 64106 or call toll-free, 1-800-642-6480 Order online at upuzzles.com.

STUMPED?

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Nanny Needed Immediately

Monday to Friday, 12:00pm to 6:00pm
Permanent service and non live-in preferred.

English speaking, other languages is acceptable, but must be able to speak fluent english and have good communication skills with children.

Car provided for work & for personal use. \$800 weekly.

Interested applicant must email Debby for more details at: jclarktd@googlemail.com

CLICK IT OR TICKET

DAY & NIGHT

WANTED TO BUY

Looking for used cars. Year must be 2000 & above. We pay cash! Please call 287-7676.

WHATZIT Solution:

Put the cat among the pigeons

LOST PASSPORT

Name : Lianjun Li
Date of Birth : August 18, 1963
Passport No. : G38626963
Expiry Date : December 23, 2019

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• 5-Liner	\$24	\$39
• 3-Liner with picture	\$24	\$42
• 5-Liner with picture	\$36	\$57

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Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
■ All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

COO COO COO
COO MEOW COO
COO COO COO

Find today's solution in this section

Bumgarner pitches Giants to brink of Series crown



ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)—The rookie pitched way beyond

this years, sending a shudder through Rangers Ballpark.

Madison Bumgarner dominated for eight innings, Aubrey Huff and Buster Posey homered and the San Francisco Giants put on a fielding clinic in Game 4, beating Texas 4-0 on Sunday night to move within one win of that elusive World Series title.

Dressed in black-and-orange, the Giants were spooky good in taking a 3-1 edge. The 21-year-old Bumgarner allowed only three hits and took all the fun out of a festive, Halloween crowd.

"I can't say enough about what he did," Giants manager Bruce Bochy said.

Ace Tim Lincecum will try Monday night to deliver the Giants' first championship since they moved to San Francisco in 1958. And now it's up to Cliff Lee to save the Rangers' season in Game 5.

"With a win, I usually sleep pretty good in the playoffs, with a loss pretty shaky. Hopefully we sleep good tonight. We've got a big challenge tomorrow with Cliff Lee," Huff said. "We got him last game, but you know he's going to come out and really want to get us."

Bumgarner and closer Brian Wilson made the Giants the first team to post two shutouts in a World Series since Baltimore

threw three straight to close out the Dodgers in 1966.

"It's certainly been pitching as advertised," Texas manager Ron Washington said. "They've got good stuff. They've got velocity. They can spin the baseball. They can change speeds and they keep their defense engaged."

Huff, who grew up in the Metroplex, hit a two-run homer in the third that gave Bumgarner all the support he needed. Posey added a solo shot in the eighth—Bumgarner and Posey became the first rookie battery to start in the Series since Spec Shea and Yogi Berra for the Yankees in 1947.

Even though Bumgarner got relief help, it was a complete game for the Giants. Andres Torres doubled twice, singled and drove in a run and Edgar Renteria also got three hits.

The gloves helped out even more.

Make it great D in Big D.

Left fielder Cody Ross came up with a shoestring catch, second baseman Freddy Sanchez made a leaping grab and Posey threw out Josh Hamilton trying to steal. Bumgarner helped himself, too, knocking down Hamilton's scorcher up the middle.

Coming off a 4-2 win Saturday night, the Rangers and their fans were ready to even this Series. Earlier in the day, about a quarter-mile away at Cowboys Stadium, Dallas dropped to 1-6 with a 35-17 loss to Jacksonville. Two little boys held up signs inside that read: "Hurry

Up Cowboys ... I Have a Rangers Game to go to."

The father-and-son team of George H.W. Bush and George W. Bush threw out the ceremonial first ball in what Major League Baseball said was the first time two former presidents attended a World Series game.

The elder Bush's wife, Barbara, even kept score from her front-row seat next to the Texas dugout. There wasn't much to write down—not on the Texas side, anyway.

Bumgarner didn't permit a runner past first base until the seventh. Facing his only jam, the lefty retired Ian Kinsler on a fly ball to strand two runners and preserve a 3-0 lead.

Bumgarner struck out Vladimir Guerrero three times, the first time the star Texas designated hitter had done that this season.

The Giants' fourth starter, Bumgarner went 7-6 in 18 starts this season. He began this game with a four-pitch walk to Elvis Andrus and ran into little trouble after that. He struck six, walked two and improved to 2-0 in three postseason starts.

"I try to tell myself all the time just to relax and take deep breaths, control the breathing. It helps me relax and stay calm and act like it's not a big deal. Obviously it is, it's the World Series. Just tried to go out there and relax, and it's worked out," he said.

Wilson closed with a hitless ninth.

The Giants tweaked their lineup, benching strikeout machine



San Francisco Giants' Madison Bumgarner throws during the first inning of Game 4 of baseball's World Series against the Texas Rangers Sunday, Oct. 31, 2010, in Arlington, Texas.

Pat Burrell and making Huff the DH for the first time this season. Bochy put Nate Schierholtz in

right field and Travis Ishikawa at first base—fine fielders, not great hitters. That's more the

NL way, where spare bats rarely grow on the bench.

Washington came off his bench twice to discuss calls with first base umpire Jeff Kellogg. Both plays were bang-bang, and replays seemed to show both were misses that went against the Rangers.

Thwarted early, the Giants took a 2-0 lead in the third on Huff's homer. Torres led off with a grounder that hit the first-base bag, kicked up and rolled into the corner for a double. Sanchez failed to advance him and was still shouting at himself down in the dugout tunnel when Huff hit a long drive to right.

Huff homered on the 62nd pitch overall from Hunter, who tossed strikes but couldn't throw the ball past anyone. Alexi Ogando began warming up in the Texas bullpen in the third and replaced Hunter in the fifth.

Ogando set down five straight batters, then bounced a breaking ball to the sixth and immediately grabbed his left side. A trainer went to the mound, Ogando came out and Darren Oliver relieved.

The Giants took an aggressive approach from the get-go. After Torres led off the game with an infield single, Bochy ordered up a bunt, hit-and-run and a steal—all with Sanchez at the plate.

Hamilton kept things scoreless in the Giants second. The All-Star center fielder charged hard to make a diving, backhanded catch on a bloop by Schierholtz that stranded runners at the corners.

Heat end Nets' unbeaten start with easy victory



NEWARK, N.J. (AP)—Dwyane Wade studied the sheet of paper in front of him, wondering if there was a mistake.

"Is this first-half stats?" Wade asked. "Nine shots?"

"That's the whole game," LeBron James answered.

Wade doesn't need to shoot much anymore, not since James and Chris Bosh joined him to form a potential powerhouse in Miami.

James scored 20 points, Bosh and Wade were close behind, and the Heat ended the New Jersey Nets' unbeaten start with a 101-78 victory Sunday.

Bosh finished with 18 points and Wade added 17, both getting most of them in Miami's dominant first half before sitting out the fourth quarter. James played a little of the final period and added seven rebounds and seven assists.

"The balance is what we are here together for," Wade said, "to have an opportunity to make the game easy on everyone and we're doing it. We're playing great team basketball and we're still not where we want to be, but we're making sure every-

one gets an opportunity."

It was the most impressive offensive performance yet for the Heat, who have won three straight since beginning their new era with a loss in Boston on opening night. Miami shot 68 percent in the first half, when its Big Three combined for 41 points—one fewer than New Jersey—and the stats only lowered when the reserves took over toward the end.

Bosh was 8 of 10 from the field, determined to be more aggressive after he struggled in two of Miami's first three games.

"When I watch other games and I'm not aggressive, we don't do as well on that certain possession, we either turn the ball over or we don't get a good shot because we're fighting the shot clock," he said.

Brook Lopez scored 20 points and rookie Derrick Favors had 13 points and 13 rebounds in the Nets' first loss this season before new owner Mikhail Prokhorov, who watched his third game this week before heading back to Russia.

The Nets followed their 12-70 finish from last season by opening with victories over Detroit and Sacramento—an especially good start since they set an NBA record by dropping their first 18

games of 2009-10.

But those are lottery teams. Miami is a championship contender.

The Heat were coming off their first big victory, overpowering rival Orlando 96-70 on Friday night in their home opener. Coach Erik Spoelstra said before Sunday's early start he hoped there would be no hangover.

Nothing to worry about.

Even with James picking up a pair of early fouls, the Heat made 10 of 14 shots (71 percent) in the first quarter, building a double-digit lead less than halfway through the period en route to a 29-18 cushion after one.

Zydrunas Ilgauskas, who followed James from Cleveland to Miami, started the second quarter with a flurry, and the lead was up to 18 after a dunk by James. The Nets couldn't do much to cut into it and the Heat led 58-42 at halftime.

"I told my team during the course of the year that there will be two or three or four games where you're not very good, and this was one of them," Nets coach Avery Johnson said. "We weren't good from the start. We were stuck in the mud, we were stuck in second gear."

James made his first visit to a team he met with during

free agency. He admitted Sunday he would change some things about the process if he had the chance—he didn't specify what they were—but reiterated he's comfortable he made the right decision.

The Nets were the first team to sit down with James and believed the new direction they promised under Prokhorov gave them a chance. James praised the organization before the game but fans apparently haven't forgiven, booing the former crowd favorite during introductions and the first few times he touched the ball—though there were loud cheers when he threw down a couple of powerful dunks.

James said he considered that the NBA's great new show could have been based in New Jersey.

"On the way to the game, I even mentioned it to Chris, just saying 'This is a point where we could have ended up at,'" James said. "But at the end of the day, we're the Miami Heat team, we're the Miami Heat franchise and we have a goal."

Carlos Arroyo had 12 points for the Heat, who broke 100 points for the first time and finished at 54 percent from the field. Eddie House fin-

ished with 11 and fellow reserve Ilgauskas scored 10.

"When they get everyone involved like that they are obviously a tough team to beat. They got it going against us tonight," Nets forward Joe Smith said. "Defensively, they do a great job of clogging the paint and making you take tough shots from the perimeter. You just have to find a way to get the easy looks and tonight we just didn't do that."

Mavericks 99, Clippers 83

At Los Angeles, Jason Kidd ended the first half with a 65-foot shot-put heave from inside the 3-point arc at the opposite end, and Caron Butler scored 17 points and Shawn Marion had 10 of his 12 points in the fourth quarter as Dallas beat the Los Angeles Clippers.

Dirk Nowitzki added 16 points and seven rebounds for the defending Southwest Division champions in their first road game of the season. Kidd finished with 13 points, nine rebounds and seven assists.

Rookie Blake Griffin had 16 points and nine rebounds for the Clippers, who fell to 0-3 on the season under new coach Vinny Del Negro. None of the starters reached double digits until Grif-

fin converted a slam dunk with 5:32 left in the third quarter.

Jazz 120, Thunder 99

At Oklahoma City, Paul Millsap had 30 points and 16 rebounds, and Deron Williams added 16 points and 15 assists as Utah beat Oklahoma to avoid matching its worst start in 31 years.

Al Jefferson notched his first double-double since joining the Jazz in an offseason trading, putting up 23 points and 10 rebounds.

The Jazz haven't started 0-3 since the 1979-80 season, the franchise's first in Utah.

Kevin Durant led Oklahoma City with 28 points and Russell Westbrook scored 22.

Lakers 107, Warriors 83

At Los Angeles, Pau Gasol had 26 points and 12 rebounds, and Kobe Bryant added 20 points as the Los Angeles Lakers kept up their unbeaten start with a win over Golden State.

Lamar Odom had 16 points and 14 rebounds for the Lakers, who easily improved to 3-0 with their 10th consecutive win over their upstate rivals.

Monta Ellis scored 20 points for the Warriors, whose first loss ended their first 2-0 start in 16 years. Golden State played without guard Stephen Curry, who aggravated his sprained right ankle Friday.

Favre knocked out; Patriots top Vikings



FOXBOROUGH, Mass. (AP)—Tom Brady

outscored Brett Favre, then kept the ball away from Tarvaris Jackson when Favre was knocked out of the game as the New England Patriots held on to beat the Minnesota Vikings 28-18 on Sunday.

Brady scrambled free to find Brandon Tate breaking free behind the defense for a 65-yard touchdown to give the Patriots the lead in the third quarter. BenJarvus Green-Elis' first touchdown, a 13-yard run, made it 21-10.

Favre drove Minnesota to the New England 3 yard-line before he was flattened by defensive lineman Myron Pryor. Jackson relieved him and threw a 1-yard touchdown pass to Naufahu Tahi on the first play, then hit Percy Harvin for the 2-point conversion that made it 21-18.

Favre, who started in his 292nd straight game despite two fractures in his left ankle, was carted off the field midway in the fourth quarter with a cut to his chin that he said required eight stitches.

Saints 20, Steelers 10

At New Orleans, Drew Brees passed for 305 yards and two touchdowns as New Orleans downed Pittsburgh.

Brees was 20 of 22 for 191 yards in the second half, breaking open a defensive struggle in which neither team scored a touchdown through the first three quarters.

Brees' first TD went to Marques Colston for 16 yards

and the second went for 8 yards to Lance Moore with 2:37 left.

Packers 9, Jets 0

At East Rutherford, New Jersey, Mason Crosby kicked three field goals for Green Bay, and that was all the Packers needed to beat the rested but sloppy Jets.

Mark Sanchez and the Jets' offense couldn't get much of anything going as New York, which entered tied for the league's best record, had its five-game winning streak end. The Jets (5-2) were shut out for the first time since a 10-0 loss to Chicago on Nov. 19, 2006, at home.

49ers 24, Broncos 16

At Wembley, England, backup Troy Smith found his range in the fourth quarter to lead San Francisco in the NFL's fourth regular-season game in London.

In his first start as a 49er, Smith had a 28-yard touchdown pass to Michael Crabtree with 7:23 left to help San Francisco (2-6) take a 17-10 lead. Frank Gore scored another with 3:47 to go, running in from the 3.

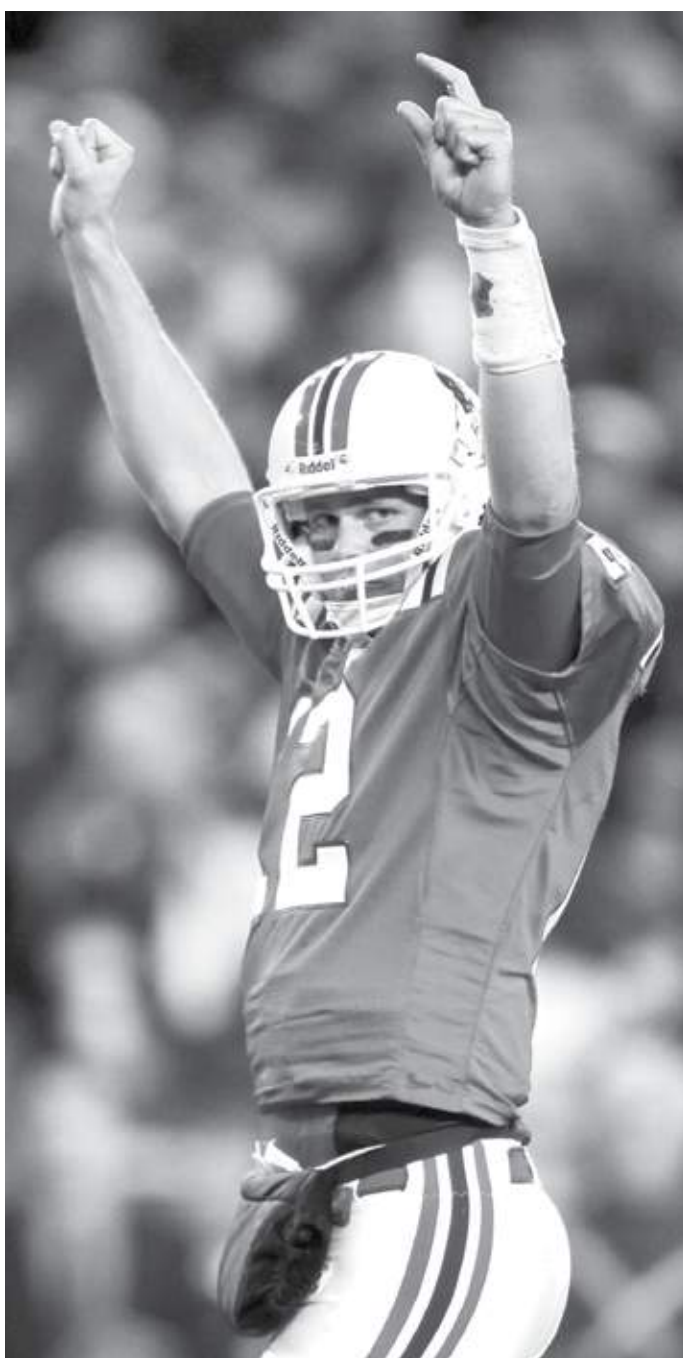
Chargers 33, Titans 25

At San Diego, Philip Rivers threw a go-ahead, 48-yard touchdown pass to Antonio Gates midway through the third quarter to lead San Diego over Tennessee, which lost quarterback Vince Young to another injury.

San Diego (3-5) snapped a three-game losing streak and won its eighth straight game against the Titans dating to 1993.

Buccaneers 38, Cardinals 35

At Glendale, Arizona, Aqib



New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady celebrates a touchdown against the Minnesota Vikings during the second half of New England's 28-18 win in an NFL football game in Foxborough, Mass., Sunday, Oct. 31, 2010.

Talib intercepted two passes, returning one 45 yards for a touchdown and saving the game with the other, as Tampa Bay rallied from a fourth-quarter deficit for the fourth time this season.

The Bucs (5-2) won their fifth straight on the road dating to last season and moved into a tie with idle Atlanta for first in the NFC South.

Raiders 33, Seahawks 3

At Oakland, California, Jason Campbell threw for 310 yards and two touchdowns as Oakland's defense delivered one of its best performance in years to help the Raiders even their record at the midpoint of the season.

Darren McFadden ran for 111 yards as the Raiders (4-4) reached the .500 mark this late in the season for the first time since 2002.

Rams 20, Panthers 10

At St. Louis, Sam Bradford threw two touchdown passes as the St. Louis defense forced four Carolina turnovers.

Bradford threw a 2-yard scoring pass to Danny Amendola in the second quarter and a 23-yard touchdown pass to Daniel Fells in the fourth as the Rams—an NFL-worst 1-15 last season—reached the midway point at 4-4.

Dolphins 22, Bengals 14

At Cincinnati, Dan Carpenter kicked five field goals for the second straight game as the Miami Dolphins made them stand up in keeping its record perfect on the road.

Last week, the Dolphins (4-3) lost after a disputed play. Ben

Roethlisberger's touchdown was ruled a fumble on review, but the Steelers kept the ball and kicked a field goal for a 23-22 win, offsetting Carpenter's five field goals.

Jaguars 35, Cowboys 17

At Arlington, Texas, David Garrard and the Jaguars became the latest to take advantage of the crumbling Cowboys.

Garrard tied a club record with four touchdown passes and ran for another while narrowly missing a perfect quarterback rating, leading the Jaguars to a 35-17 victory over Dallas.

Chiefs 13, Bills 10 (OT)

At Kansas City, Missouri, Ryan Succop kicked a 34-yard field goal as time expired in overtime to lift Kansas City over winless Buffalo.

Succop had a chance to win the game with 3:38 to go in OT, but his 39-yard attempt with 3:38 to go hooked left at the last instant.

Lions 37, Redskins 25

At Detroit, Matthew Stafford threw four touchdown passes, including a 10-yarder to Calvin Johnson with 3:12 left, and the Lions (2-5) went on to score nine points in a 14-second span for their second win of the season.

The Redskins (4-4) turned the ball over on downs after Johnson's career-high third score. Washington coach Mike Shanahan then put Rex Grossman in for an apparently healthy Donovan McNabb, and he fumbled on his first play with Ndamukong Suh returning it for a TD.



SHANGHAI (AP)—Lee Westwood had little reason to think one year ago he could be

No. 1 in the world, a position that looked "unattainable" the way Tiger Woods had been dominating golf for so much of the decade.

Golf can take some peculiar turns, though, which Westwood knows better than most.

Westwood reached No. 1 on Sunday for the first time. He ended a record run by Woods, who had led the world ranking for 281 weeks.

"Everyone thought it was unattainable," Westwood said during a conference call. "People go through different things in life, and form comes and goes. I know as well as anyone you can lose your form."

Westwood, at No. 266 in the world seven years ago while fighting through a severe slump, became only the 13th player to be No. 1 since the world ranking began in 1986, and the first European since Nick Faldo in 1994.

The 37-year-old English-

Lee Westwood goes to No. 1, overtakes Woods

man is only the fourth player to get there without having won a major.

For now, this feels like one.

"Whenever you can sit down and say, 'I'm the best in the world right now,' it's a dream that everybody holds," Westwood said, calling it the most satisfying achievement of his career.

The final step was anticlimactic.

Westwood, who has finished only one tournament since the British Open while recovering from a calf injury, knew he would go to No. 1 as long as PGA champion Martin Kaymer did not finish among the top two at the Andalucia Masters in Spain.

Kaymer tied for 21st, and when the German walked off the 18th at Valderrama, champagne began pouring in Westwood's home in England, where he shared the moment with his parents and about 20 friends.

Westwood is followed in the rankings by Woods, Kay-

mer, Phil Mickelson and Steve Stricker.

"Growing up, when people ask what you want to achieve, you turn around say, 'I want to be the best in the world,'" Westwood said. "Right at this very moment, I can show people the world ranking and say, 'Look, I'm the best in the world. I'm the best on the planet for golf at the moment.' It's a fairly large achievement when you look at the people who were No. 1 in the ranking."

For the longest time, that was Woods.

Woods has been introduced as the world's No. 1 player since June 12, 2005, the week before he finished runner-up in the U.S. Open at Pinehurst No. 2. He won the British Open a month later, and his ranking has rarely been threatened since.

The gap was as large as ever less than a year ago. When Woods won the Australian Masters, his points average in the world ranking was 16.17. Westwood was No. 5 at 5.92 points.

It all changed so quickly for

Woods, who struggled through his worst season on and off the course. Woods took a five-month breath to cope with confessions of extramarital affairs, which ended in divorce, and his game has not been the same. He has not finished better than a tie for fourth—in the Masters and U.S. Open—and he has lost more ranking points than any player has earned.

Westwood could not have imagined getting to No. 1 without having at least won a major, but he's not surprised he was the one who replaced Woods. He was runner-up in two majors (Masters, British Open), tied for fourth at The Players Championship and won the St. Jude Classic in Memphis, Tenn.

How long Westwood stays at the top remains to be seen.

He was to leave Monday for the HSBC Champions in Shanghai, where four players—Westwood, Woods, Kaymer and Phil Mickelson—will have a chance to be No. 1 in the world. For Mickelson, it will be his 13th straight tournament

with a chance to be No. 1, the difference now that he is chasing Westwood, not Woods.

"This could be very exciting for the game of golf," Westwood said.

It was reminiscent of June 1997, when Woods, Ernie Els and Greg Norman all reached No. 1 in a three-week span.

As much as this represents the end of Woods' reign, it completes a remarkable turnaround for Westwood. He struggled through a slump so severe that he fell as low as No. 266 in the world on May 25, 2003. He gradually began to work his way back toward the top, and Westwood has been surging the last couple of years.

"When you get that low ... it's a very difficult process," he said. "You take it a step at a time and rebuild the whole thing. And that's what I tried to do."

This is the 10th time Woods has lost the No. 1 ranking. The longest he was out of the No. 1 spot was 26 weeks toward the end of the 2004 season and beginning of 2005, when Vijay

Singh went on a great run and Woods was in the middle of a swing change.

"You just keep playing," Woods said in August, as his hold on No. 1 became more tenuous. "Winning golf tournaments takes care of a lot of things, and being No. 1 is one of them."

Woods had an exhibition in Japan on Monday before going to Shanghai for the HSBC Champions, which starts Thursday at Sheshan International. Mickelson is the defending champion.

Westwood, meanwhile, becomes only the fourth player to reach No. 1 without winning a major. Ian Woosnam reached No. 1 in 1991 the week before he won the Masters, and Fred Couples was at No. 1 in two separate weeks a month before he won the Masters. David Duval was No. 1 for 15 weeks in 1999, and won the British Open two years later.

Westwood hopes a major is coming soon for him.

"It's a confidence boost if anything," he said. "It's confirmation I'm working on the right thing."

Ol'Aces, Sonics, Rollers B win in Rotary caging

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER



Sonics, Ol'Aces, and Rollers B all came out on top against their respective opponents, while Rollers A won by forfeit as the Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League U15 season continued Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

In the first game, the Sonics routed hapless Agape, 85-22. The Sonics roared out of the gates, pummeling Agape in the opening quarter, 26-8, thanks largely in part to the 14 points by Nevin Salem.

Agape's offense then was completely shut out in the second period, while Bryl Alegre kept the buckets going for the Sonics with 10 points.

Agape was held to just one basket in the third quarter and the Sonics poured on 23 points to its lead heading into the final period.

Sonics did not let up in the final period either and ran up the scoreboard all the way to the end.

Sonics' Salem and Alegre combined for 39 points, while Lixing Dai led

Agape with 10 points in the loss.

Ol'Aces then wiped the floor clean of Rollers C, 45-31, in the other game of the last Saturday's scheduled quadruple-header.

Ol'Aces only allowed four points to their opponents in the first half and took a commanding 17-4 lead at halftime. Nate Nahashima led Ol'Aces with six markers in the opening frame.

Rollers C found some offense after the break, but was unable to climb out of the hole. Ol'Aces' V.J. Nakayama took over in the second half and delivered 14 points.

Nakayama led all scorers with 16 marks, while Rollers C's John Darag managed seven points in the loss.

In the fourth and last game of the day, Rollers B dominated the G-Stars, 45-11. The latter opened up a huge 18-2 lead to start the game. The G-Stars had ball-handling and rebounding issues, which made for a troubling situation going forward.

Rollers B shared the ball and cruised to a 26-5 halftime lead; eight different sets of hands got in on the action for the Sonics.

After the break, Rollers B only managed five points, but it still bested the



WALTER SUTHERLAND

Ol'Aces forward V.J. Nakayama (10) led all scorers with 16 points in their win against Rollers C in last Saturday's U15 Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball matchup at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

meager three-point output of the G-Stars.

It was much of the same the fourth quarter for the G-Stars who were held to one basket, while Rollers B stretched out a 34-point win margin.

The other game of the weekend saw Rollers A score a walkover win against Runnin' Rebels.

Sonics 85 – Salem 21, Alegre 18, Aranda 12, De Guzman 6, Estrada 6, Mizer 6, Ecal 4, Escalada 4, Villanueva 4, Andrew 3.

Agape 22 – Dai 10, Jian Jun 6, Puno 2, Jun Wei 2, Yang 2.

Scoring by quarters: 26-8, 48-8, 71-10, 85-22.

Ol'Aces 45 – Nakayama 16, Olompin 10, Nahashima 8, Ray 6, Ariola 2, Ompay 2, Rabauliman 2.

Rollers C 31 – Darag 7, Jones 6, Iglecias 5, Castillo 4, Yap 4, Lumabi 3, Floresca 2.

Scoring by quarters: 8-2, 17-4, 31-14, 45-31.

Rollers B 45 – Kwon 6, W Camacho 6, Capuyon 6, DL Guerrero 6, Malonzo 5, Ano 4, Factor 4, Yatsui 4, Cayading 2, Pangelinan 2.

G-Stars 11 – De Leon 4, Chan 3, Bai 2, Caro 2.

Scoring by quarters: 18-2, 26-6, 31-9, 45-11.

WOMEN

From Page 28

luckily she did not sustain any serious injuries. The bow rammed the MPP ca-

BLACK

From Page 28

Black Hawks were Ric Brien, Cristy Villafior, and Maratas.

The Red Hot Chili Shuttlers' two doubles victories were courtesy of the pairs of Andrew Galvez and Gigi Zapanta and Zapanta and Anna Alvarez. Galvez gave the Shuttlers their lone singles win after topping Rey Bulaon, 3-0. Pending Sunday's results, the Red Hot Shuttlers have 34 won sets, the sixth best in the seven-team field.

The Black Hawks also duelled the

noe, came out of the water and trapped Fleming underneath it.

MPP plans on competing in next year's Micro Cup, which will be held on Guam. They would like to thank sponsors Lollipops, Marianas Visitor's

Authority, and Marianas Coffee for all their support.

In an effort to beef up their crew for next year, MPP is inviting any ladies who are interested in joining their team to come by their scheduled practice

sessions. MPP practices will resume on Nov. 2 and are held every Tuesday and Thursday morning at 6am with Saturday afternoon practices at 4pm; all at Kili Beach across from the Gilbert C. Ada Sports Complex.

Green Buck\$ 6, Royale Blue 3

Green Bucks and Royale Blue have only one game left in their pairing, but the former had already secured the win, 6-3.

Green Buck\$ took the win after going 6-for-8 in the doubles event. Royale Blue won the lone singles match with Mario Diola beating Noli Santos and added two doubles victories to its credit.

The remaining doubles game between the pairs of Macoi Aguda and Luis Camacho and Robert Reyes and Puy Macario once Aguda arrives from vacation.

Green Buck\$ has earned 39 sets won—the third best in the field—while Royale Blue has notched 36.

OFF-ISLAND

From Page 28

young giant. Miyasaki was a humble winner and showed a lot of class after having his hand raised. It was the second loss in as many fights for Buekis.

USA's Jason Kirklen of the North American Kickboxing Academy also won his professional debut after using a triangle choke submission to defeat Team Predator Combat's Martin "Ning" Cepeda at the 43-second mark of the second round of their 185-lb division match.

Cepeda started very strong and probably won the first round. Cepeda livened up the crowd with three powerful body slams, but may have burned himself out early. Although he was thrown around like a rag doll and blasted in the face a couple of times, Kirklen did not panic

Orange Shuttle Masters in Week 2 and were trailing, 1-2.

Pink Dynamites 6, Yellow Idols 4

In the other pairing last week, Pink Dynamites edged the Yellow Idols, 6-4.

Pink Dynamites went 4-for-5 in the doubles matches and then claimed two more wins in the singles division to win their Week 2 assignment.

Dick Guintu and Jerri Hibi won the first doubles game for Pink Dynamites, who also drew victories from the duos of Rommel Monserat and So Young Lee, Elma Labuson

and Marlene Peraja, and Joey Aljeno and Kanata Omori. Toshiko Obata and Omori also gave Pink Dynamites singles win.

After the weekend matches, Pink Dynamites have collected 38 won sets, the third best in the field. Pink Dynamites was paired against Royale Blue, too in Week 2 with the former winning the first two singles matches.

Despite the loss to Pink Dynamites, the Yellow Idols have a better record (40 sets won) than the former, as the latter gained the first two wins against the Green Buck\$ in their second assignment in Week 2.

and waited for Cepeda to make a mistake. It was obvious that Kirklen was looking for a grappling submission, yet it was still impressive how he found it from his back. Kirklen rolled over once he locked it in with his legs and Cepeda tapped almost immediately.

Kisetsu Warriors Guam's Thomas Cruz, meanwhile, improved his MMA record to 3-4 after tapping out Trench Tech's Fasi "Quickdraw" Jesse with a nasty arm bar at the four-minute mark of the first round. Jesse, who dropped to 6-3, looked like he was dominating the fight, until he suddenly tapped out. This 160-lb fight ended abruptly just when it looked like it was getting good.

Tinian's Joe Ray "Manglo" Manglona of Team Zeng Zuyng won his amateur debut set at 145 lbs in dominant fashion over first-time independent fighter John "The Process" Moses with

an impressive triangle choke submission at 1:41 of the first round. Manglona showed he was a strong wrestler and almost finished his opponent with a guillotine, but remained patient and found the triangle choke.

Trench Tech's Mark "The Dark" Nuque, for his part, made his home island of Saipan proud when he beat Team Haga's CJ "Face" Takai in the 140-lb bout.

Nuqui, who won by TKO at 4:22 of the first round, had no trouble executing his game plan as this match went to the mat right away. As he dominated is opponent with his wrestling, Nuque almost choked out Takai, but ended up reigning down headshots from the mount until the former refused to fight back.

After losing his last two fights, Japan's Tomoya "Katana" Kato of Team Bonds bounced back and came out on top of a brutal three-round war against Guam's

mate Nelton Skerei and Whispering Palms' Danny Auther, who timed in at 6:35 and 7:13, respectively.

The girls U12 division had Maddie Santos of SCS as winner with her time of 8:43. Hopwood Xena Xu and Renita Kaipat finished second and third, respectively, after clocking in at 9:04 and 9:31.

In the U14 division, which had 21 runners racing for 2.2 miles, Hopwood swept both the girls and boys events.

Mikayla Lopez was the first finisher in the girls U14 with her time of 15:06, followed by Shanthia Espinosa (18:59), and Khim Sanarez (26:53). In the boys division, Braylan Floresca timed in at 13:57 to prevail over Hopwood teammate Kelvin Deleon Guerrero (14:13) and Vinnie Inos (14:38).

Meanwhile, all student runners who competed in at least one of the three trials are eligible for the All Schools

championship set for Nov. 13.

The championship will feature competitions in the boys and girls U8, U10, U12, U14, and U18. The Top 3 placers in each age group will receive medals, while trophies await the Top 3 schools in each division.

Participating schools will be given points based on how their runners finish in the race to determine the Top 3 rankings.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	2	1	.667	—
New Jersey	2	1	.667	—
Toronto	1	1	.500	1/2
New York	1	2	.333	1
Philadelphia	0	3	.000	2

Southeast Division

Atlanta	3	0	1.000	—
Miami	3	1	.750	1/2
Orlando	1	1	.500	1 1/2
Washington	0	2	.000	2 1/2
Charlotte	0	3	.000	3

Central Division

Indiana	2	1	.667	—
Chicago	1	1	.500	1/2
Cleveland	1	2	.333	1
Milwaukee	1	2	.333	1
Detroit	0	3	.000	2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

New Orleans	3	0	1.000	—
Dallas	2	1	.667	1
Memphis	2	1	.667	1
San Antonio	1	1	.500	1 1/2
Houston	0	3	.000	3

Northwest Division

Portland	3	0	1.000	—
Denver	2	1	.667	1
Oklahoma City	2	1	.667	1
Minnesota	1	2	.333	2
Utah	1	2	.333	2

Pacific Division

L.A. Lakers	3	0	1.000	—
Golden State	2	1	.667	1
Sacramento	2	1	.667	1
Phoenix	1	2	.333	2
L.A. Clippers	0	3	.000	3

Yesterday's Games

Miami 101, New Jersey 78
Dallas 99, L.A. Clippers 83
Utah 120, Oklahoma City 99
L.A. Lakers 107, Golden State 83

NFL STANDINGS

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	6	1	0	.857	205	154
N.Y. Jets	5	2	0	.714	159	110
Miami	4	3	0	.571	133	149
Buffalo	0	7	0	.000	131	211

South

Houston	4	2	0	.667	153	167
Indianapolis	4	2	0	.667	163	125
Tennessee	5	3	0	.625	224	150
Jacksonville	4	4	0	.500	165	226

North

Baltimore	5	2	0	.714	149	129
Pittsburgh	5	2	0	.714	147	102
Cleveland	2	5	0	.286	118	142
Cincinnati	2	5	0	.286	146	163

West

Kansas City	5	2	0	.714	163	122
Oakland	4	4	0	.500	212	168
San Diego	3	5	0	.375	210	174
Denver	2	6	0	.250	154	223

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East

N.Y. Giants	5	2	0	.714	175	153
Philadelphia	4	3	0	.571	172	157
Washington	4	4	0	.500	155	170
Dallas	1	6	0	.143	154	187

South

Atlanta	5	2	0	.714	169	133
Tampa Bay	5	2	0	.714	136	163
New Orleans	5	3	0	.625	167	148
Carolina	1	6	0	.143	85	150

North

Green Bay	5	3	0	.625	176	136
Chicago	4	3	0	.571	126	114
Minnesota	2	5	0	.286	129	144
Detroit	2	5	0	.286	183	165

West

Seattle	4	3	0	.571	123	140
St. Louis	4	4	0	.500	140	141
Arizona	3	4	0	.429	133	198
San Francisco	2	6	0	.250	137	178

Yesterday's Games

San Francisco 24, Denver 16
Detroit 37, Washington 25
Kansas City 13, Buffalo 10, OT
St. Louis 20, Carolina 10
Miami 22, Cincinnati 14
Jacksonville 35, Dallas 17
Green Bay 9, N.Y. Jets 0
San Diego 33, Tennessee 25
New England 28, Minnesota 18
Oakland 33, Seattle 3
Tampa Bay 38, Arizona 35
New Orleans 20, Pittsburgh 10

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

COPSSA Junior Varsity Volleyball League

PHOTOS By WALTER SUTHERLAND and ROSELYN B. MONROYO



The top players of the junior varsity division were recognized during the awards ceremony.



Saipan International School players receive their runner-up trophy.



A Saipan Community School player returns to Saipan International School while her teammates and coach look on during their title game.



Grace Christian Academy players pose with their Sportsmanship Award.



Saipan International School's Chris Park serves against Saipan Community School.



Tyler Palacios serves to Marianas Baptist Academy.



A Marianas Baptist Academy player returns to Seventh Day Adventist during their playoff game.



Players and coaches of Saipan Community School flash the No. 1 sign after ruling the junior varsity division of the 2010-2011 Coalition of Private Schools Sports Association Volleyball League.



Calvary Christian Academy players get ready on defense during their game against Saipan Community School.



Marianas Baptist Academy won the third place trophy after beating Whispering Palms in the consolation game.



Bumgarner pitches
Giants to brink of
Series crown

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Saipan Tribune Sports

Favre knocked
out; Patriots
top Vikings

PAGE 25



28 TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2010

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Women paddlers finish 3rd in Palau

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

The Marianas Pacific Paddlers represented the CNMI in the Open Women's Events of the 2010 Micro Cup held in Palau last Oct. 23 and 24 and finished third place overall in the standings.

The team includes coach Ann Jordan, team captain and over 20-year paddling veteran Juliette Sword, Leilani Nielsen, Vaaia Erica Leuta, Eileen Fleming, and sisters Valerie and Andrea Hofschneider.

The defending champion Saipan Outriggers Canoe Club men's team did not make it to the podium this year. SOCC fared very well in the qualifiers, but did not get it done during the finals and surprisingly came home empty handed this year.

"Hats off to the winners because the competition was very strong this year. Admittedly, our team is surprised not to make the podium after performing so well last year, but we are getting up there in age...those other guys deserve credit because they just did a great job when it counted," said SOCC's Gil Birnbrich.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Marianas Pacific Paddlers women's team poses for a photo in Palau after their third place finish in the 2010 Micro Cup.

Aside from MPP, the 2010 Micro Cup women's division was made up of a 10-team field

including seven teams from Guam, one from Hong Kong, and a crew from Palau. The pad-

dling teams competed in three events: a 500m sprint; 1,500m open-race; and an 8-mile long

distance race.

MPP was able to secure the third place and was awarded

two finely hand crafted trophies for both the 1500m open and the Long Distance races.

The women entered the scene as obvious underdogs with the smallest crew and a majority of first-time competitors, but they surprised the competition and consistently finished in the Top 4 positions across the board.

"Since this was the group's first-ever event we honestly didn't know what to expect, but we knew we had a lot of heart and a wanted to make both ourselves and the CNMI proud. The third place finish really boosts our confidence...now the competition knows who we are and we're looking forward to coming out even stronger next year," said MPP's Leilani Nielsen.

Nielsen added that the MPP women practiced together as a whole group for only a month prior to the competition, although the strenuous schedule required three practices a week.

In related news, after the conclusion of the event MPP member, Eileen Fleming, was rushed to the emergency room after Guam's OGCC Mas Poksai canoe collided with the MPP canoe, pinning down Fleming, but

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Black Hawks pull away in Traders badminton

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



The Black Hawks recorded another convincing win after clawing the Red Hot Chili Shuttlers, 7-3, in Week 2 of the 4th Annual Traders Insurance Badminton Team Tournament played over the weekend at the REM Center in Gualo Rai.

The Black Hawks now have earned 65 won sets, 25 sets more of their closest pursuer Yellow Idols (40). Only three of the six pairings in Week 2 were completed last Friday and Saturday and once Sunday's results are turned in, the Black Hawks are expected to pull away further and let the rest of the field catch them up.

After winning the first two doubles matches, the Black Hawks went 2-for-4 in the remaining doubles games and then took three of the four singles matches to prevail in their Week 2 assignment.

The pair of Edwin Maratas and Alvin Alvarez delivered two doubles wins for the Black Hawks, while the two other



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Black Hawks' Annette Quiambao returns to the Orange Shuttle Masters during a doubles game in the Traders Insurance badminton tournament last Sunday at the REM Center in Gualo Rai.

doubles victories came from the tandems of Edwin Montoya and Angie Ito and Annette Qui-

ambao and Oh Imbog. In the singles division, winning for the

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WALTER SUTHERLAND

Mark "The Dark" Nuique, on top, dishes out some vicious ground-and-pound blows in his bout against CJ "Face" Takai in Trench Warz 13: Vengeance held last Friday at the Saipan World Resort.

Off-island fighters beat foes

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Mixed martial arts fighters from off-island reigned supreme in the rest of the fight card of Trech Warz 13: Vengeance held last Friday at the Royal Taga Hall of Saipan World Resort.

Guam heavyweight Peter "Big Mac" Miyasaki of GTT/Underground Xtreme won

his professional debut when he beat Saipan's Moses "Big Bang" Buekis 28 seconds into their fight.

If the crowd blinked twice they would have missed it. Miyasaki only threw a handful of punches, but

they were all right on the button and Buekis found himself curling up into a ball soon after bumping gloves with the

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SCS, Hopwood
dominate last cross
country qualifier

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Saipan Community School and Hopwood Junior High

School will be marked teams in the 2010 All Schools Cross Country Championship, following their impressive performance in the final qualifying tournament last Saturday at the CPA Field.

In the boys U18 division race, which had a distance of 1.1 miles, SCS claimed the Top 3 places with Ken Song finishing first at seven minutes and 52 seconds. Derrick Seo placed second at 9:25, while Jeffery Seo came in third at 12:01. Tori Camacho, also of SCS, won the girls U8 division with a time of 12:18.

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